



THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,679

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WITH 9 PAGES OF SPORT

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The decorator as rock star

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Wives who leave for other women

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Police accused of 'racist culture'

ONE OF the Metropolitan Police's most influential advisers on race says there is a culture of institutional racism in the police service.

In a submission to the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, Dr Robin Oakley, an independent consultant, says this insidious form of racism may have affected the actions of every officer who investigated Stephen's murder in 1993.

His views will come as a severe blow to the Met, which has admitted that its officers were grossly incompetent but strongly denies allegations of

racism. Dr Oakley, a former academic, is eminent in race training. He has worked with the Home Office, the Met and other police forces for many years.

The public inquiry into Stephen Lawrence's death will reconvene next month to examine the lessons to be learnt from the abortive police investigation.

Dr Oakley says definitions of racism need to be re-examined, and that the problem is not - as is believed by many in

the police service - confined to "a few rotten apples".

This concept, which gained widespread acceptance after Lord Scarman's report into the Brixton riots in 1981, is at odds with such phenomena as the disproportionate numbers of black men stopped and searched on the streets by police, he says.

"It is quite unrealistic that minority concerns about differentials in stop and search, about the police response to racial attacks, and about police demeanour towards visible minorities generally, could be the

result of actions solely of a small number of individuals.

"At the very least they must be the result of tendencies among a much larger number of officers, if not the outcome of 'normal policing'."

Dr Oakley says institutional racism lies at the heart of the problem, and was "potentially - though not necessarily actually - manifest in the actions of every officer involved in the events following Stephen Lawrence's murder".

He goes on: "What were the images of Stephen as a young black person in the minds of

those who attended the scene, and did they check out any possible tendencies to make assumptions of a racial nature?"

"Did they routinely consider and also prioritise the possibility that racism could have been his attackers' motivation? Did they appreciate and respond to the concerns that a black family in particular might have when dealing with police in these kinds of circumstances?"

Dr Oakley says it is not surprising that the Police Complaints Authority, which reviewed the murder investi-

gation last year, found no evidence of overt racism.

"Whether there should be confidence that no racially discriminatory treatment of any kind took place, eg of a more subtle and unintended nature, is an entirely different matter," he says. "In general, there are sound reasons to suppose that biased actions could have occurred."

Dr Oakley says that while subliminal racist attitudes can affect all large organisations, the police service is particularly vulnerable. He says: "Police work, unlike most other pro-

fessional activities, has the capacity to bring officers into contact with a skewed cross-section of society, with the well-recognised potential for producing negative stereotypes of particular groups.

"Such stereotypes become the common currency of the police occupational culture. If the predominantly white staff of the police organisation have their experience of visible minorities largely restricted to interactions with such groups, then negative racial stereotypes will tend to develop accordingly."

Sir Paul Condon, the Metro-

politan Police Commissioner, has said the Met plans to improve training and recruitment procedures to combat racism.

Dr Oakley says an "overall strategic approach" is needed, "implemented at all levels, with the lead visibly from the top".

Last weekend, Dr Oakley said: "It's not about dealing with a small number of bigots; it's about dealing with an organisational culture. Some of these issues are being addressed and some progress has been made, but there is an urgent need for more to be done."

Jailed Shayler vows to fight extradition

DAVID SHAYLER, the maverick former MI5 officer, is behind bars in Paris today awaiting extradition to Britain to face charges under the Official Secrets Act.

Mr Shayler, 32, was arrested in a bar in the French capital on Saturday night, amid reports that he was threatening to publish details of British espionage operations on the Internet.

The Home Office said he was detained at the request of the British government, and that a formal request would be made for him to be extradited to stand trial on charges of revealing state secrets.

A spokeswoman denied that the move was connected to reports in early editions of the Sunday Times, which appeared on Saturday night, claiming that he planned to publish details of an alleged MI6 plot to blow up Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader.

Mr Shayler fled across the Channel last year after making a series of sensational disclosures about the work of the intelligence services. He said that MI5 maintained files on ministers such as Jack Straw and Peter Mandelson when they were student activists. He also claimed that intelligence about a planned bomb attack on the Israeli embassy in London was not passed on.

Mr Shayler was remanded to the Prison de la Sante, the main

Confidential letters between Liberty and government lawyers, which have been seen by *The Independent*, reveal that the arrest followed the breakdown of lengthy negotiations to guarantee Mr Shayler some form of immunity from prosecution if he returned home voluntarily.

Mr Shayler, who had gone to the bar near his hotel in the St Germain area of Paris to watch a football match, was detained by three plain-clothes officers.

Mme Chauvin, deputy public prosecutor at the Parquet de Paris, the French public prosecutions office, said in a statement: "Mr David Shayler has been remanded in custody ahead of extradition proceedings. He is the subject of a process under French law in which a request from the British authorities for extradition will be considered and then a decision made."

Mr Shayler had travelled to Paris from the rural French farmhouse where he had been staying with his girlfriend, Annie Macdon, another former MI5 officer. He had been due to give an interview to *Breakfast With Frost* yesterday morning.

The Home Office admitted that it had received a tip-off about the Sunday Times story at the end of last week. But the spokeswoman said: "The decision had already been taken for us to request an extradition."

His lawyer, John Wadham, said he would fight extradition proceedings. He predicted that no jury would convict Mr Shayler if he did end up standing trial, saying all his disclosures had been in the public interest.

"Here's what he revealed: there's a file on Peter Mandelson, there's a file on Jack Straw, they messed up this, they messed up that," Mr Wadham, director of the civil rights group Liberty, told BBC Television's *Breakfast With Frost* programme. "Do you think 12 ordinary people are going to put him in prison?" he asked. "I doubt it."



David Shayler, shown here with his Internet website, is now facing extradition from France

Clinton urged to tell all to end panic

IN THE first evidence of high-level political panic over the Monica Lewinsky affair, leading Republicans yesterday appealed to President Clinton to come clean and confess all, holding out the prospect of indulgent treatment from Congress if he levelled with the American people.

The calls evinced the spread of concern in Washington that the scandal was imperilling the Presidency.

The most striking and forceful appeal came from Senator Orrin Hatch, who is chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which has the power to impeach the President. Speaking on a succession of television talkshows, he said that full disclosure by the President, even if it entailed an admission of perjury, could end the threat of impeachment.

"If he comes forth and tells it and does it in the right way and there aren't a lot of other factors to cause the Congress to say this man is unfit for the presidency and should be impeached, then I think the President would have a reasonable chance of getting through this," he told the NBC programme. Meet the Press.

"I don't know anybody at the top of the system," he said, "who really wants to see the President hurt in this matter."

Mr Hatch's carefully worded plea, which was endorsed by other senior Republicans, offered mercy for Mr Clinton, but on the express condition that his one crime was to have lied about his relationship with his Lewinsky in the evidence he gave to prosecutors in the civil sexual harassment suit brought by Paula Jones.

Legal specialists noted, however, that any indulgence shown towards Mr Clinton raised many legal questions: would perjury then be permissible, if it was about sex or motivated by a desire to save one's family?

Goats used by MoD in submarine experiments

THERE HAS been a huge increase in the number of animals killed or subjected to horrific injuries in painful and sometimes bizarre research projects carried out by the Ministry of Defence.

In one piece of arcane military research, goats are being subjected to painful rapid decompression to test submarine

crews' escape procedures. A highly sensitive official report, obtained by *The Independent*, reveals more than 11,000 animals were used in experiments at Porton Down, the MoD's research centre in Wiltshire in 1996, the last year for which figures are

available. This represents a 27 per cent increase on the previous year and double the number used in 1992, according to the second report of the Government-appointed Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

The document, which was placed in the House of Commons Library last week, indicates that

pigs and sheep were subjected to a range of serious and often fatal injuries. In one experiment code-named "Operation Danish bacon", the pigs were shot by Danish soldiers to test surgical techniques.

The report says some trials on pigs and sheep involved inflicting the kind of "traumatic injuries expected in modern warfare". A minority of the experiments were conducted on animals that had not been anaesthetised.

The report outlines how 46 adult goats were used in 124 submarine escape and rescue experiments. The "dives" were made at Alverstoke, near

Gosport, using a hyperbaric chamber. Two goats were normally subjected to pressure and depressurised to test treatment for the "bends". Research scientists said the physiology of the animals is similar to humans where compression and decompression is concerned.

A spokesman for the charity

Animal Aid said: "Because of obnoxious government secrecy we can reveal only a few fragments of the horror story that is Porton Down."

But a spokesman for the centres said animals were humanely destroyed, if they were in "significant distress", under laws policed by the Home Office.

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A game of news reader musical chairs looked set to break out after it emerged the BBC is trying to poach Trevor McDonald from ITN. Page 5

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Reginald Brown, a director of the nursing agency Class Care which is under investigation by the Home Office

Geoff Coddick

Agency accused of using unqualified nurses

A NURSING agency is under investigation by the Home Office following allegations that it is sending dozens of unregistered nurses to work in hospitals.

The local authority in the London borough of Tower Hamlets is also conducting an inquiry into Class Care Agency Ltd, a recruitment company based in Bow, East London, after complaints by a former employee that many of the nurses on the agency's books are not properly qualified.

A former recruitment worker at the firm told *The Independent* that the agency - which is still sending out nurses to hospitals across London - was a "disaster waiting to happen".

He said: "My job was to re-

CRUISE

cruit nurses and then assign the nurses to hospitals. I ran checks on a number of nurses and found out that they weren't registered. I was being asked to book people to do jobs they weren't qualified for.

"I was suspicious when I realised nurses were giving the same person as a reference. One man tried to join as a nurse by using my identity after my wallet had been stolen."

The former employee, who does not want to be named, added: "The agency had about 450 nurses on its books. While I was working there I checked about 150 nurses and only about 20 were registered."

"Many nurses have come

here from other countries. They may be qualified in their own country but they are not qualified here."

Class Care, which also has an office in Woolwich, was set up by former directors of the discredited Selective Nursing Agency Ltd, which went into liquidation.

An investigation by Westminster City Council into Selective last year found that there were serious shortfalls in the way it vetted applicants for nursing jobs.

Joyce Akyea, who resigned as managing director of Class Care Agency in January, was also a director of the Selective Nursing Agency. Reginald Brown, believed to be her son, was also a director of Selective Nursing and is currently listed

as a director of Class Care. Mr Brown yesterday denied allegations that he had sent unregistered nurses to work in hospitals to do courses' jobs, adding: "We don't just have registered nurses, student nurses and care assistants."

He said that the former employee who had made the claims held a grudge against the agency and that his allegations were unfounded.

He added: "Tower Hamlets have got bigger reasons [for investigating] that I can't go into. It runs much deeper."

He said: "This is the first I have heard about the Home Office being involved... No one has told me to stop operating."

The Royal College of Nurs-

ing and Westminster City Council are currently lobbying the Government to toughen up legislation to combat the danger of unscrupulous agencies.

Bogus or under-qualified nurses can only be exposed if employers check their credentials on a confirmation telephone line operated by the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting.

A spokesman for the UKCC warned: "There are several potential dangers. One is that someone tries to get into nursing who isn't qualified in order to harm patients or to have access to drugs. Another is that the person is well-meaning but because they are 'untrained' they will not know what to do in a crisis."

Woman on remand attacked by prison gang

A WOMAN being held on remand in a Scottish prison has allegedly been physically and sexually assaulted by a group of nine other prisoners. It emerged today.

It is understood the 34-year-

OLD

old woman had arrived in the prison only one day before the alleged incident. The attack is alleged to have taken place in the troubled Cornton Vale

prison - Scotland's only all-woman jail - on June 12. Central Scotland Police said nine women - aged from 21 to 41 - were the subject of a report to be sent to the procurator fiscal.

A Scottish Prison Service

spokesman said the alleged attack occurred in Ross House, the jail's remand block. He said the woman was not seriously injured and did not need to go to hospital after receiving treatment in the

prison's medical centre. Cornton Vale, near Stirling, has been at the centre of a rash of suicides in the past three years. Eight young women have killed themselves there, most while in the remand block.

Charity worker faces jail term in Romania

BY VANESSA THORP

AT FIRST sight, the British charity worker Graham Giles is no Angel of Mostar. Yet this week the 41-year-old from Southampton is facing the prospect of imprisonment abroad simply because he too, like the popular heroine Sally Burch, was helping a young child.

Mr Giles, a former Baptist minister, has been charged with manslaughter in Romania after a road accident last December in which a female passenger in another car was killed.

The Romanian press has already held Mr Giles to blame for the incident, in spite of the fact that the other driver involved had no licence and was found to have been drunk. Mr Giles' solicitors have been told that he has been formally charged and must not leave the country before the trial date next month.

"It is an amazing story," said Stephen Jakobi, of the British charity Fair Trials Abroad. "Contrary to witness statements and technical evidence, he [Mr Giles] is being prosecuted for manslaughter, and grievous bodily harm, while the other man is merely being charged for driving without a licence and being over the limit."

Mr Giles, who runs the European charity Partnership for Justice from offices in the Romanian city of Arad, was taking a child to hospital to have artificial legs fitted at the time of the collision. He claims he was driving slowly because of his frail passenger and that a video filmed by chance of the crash shows the other driver, a Romanian, was clearly to blame.

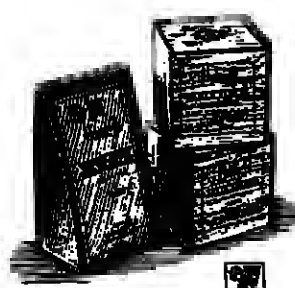
"This man, Mirela Ion, was driving dangerously at speed on the wrong side of the road, and was oblivious to my warnings," said Mr Giles, who broke his nose and was badly bruised in the crash. His passenger, the child, escaped serious injury.

Lawyers working in Arad on Mr Giles' behalf have obtained expert testimony that the action that he took - turning his car rapidly across the road - was probably life-saving.

Mr Giles' sister, Chrissy, who lives in south London, has written to MPs and MEPs in an attempt to build up support for Graham's case. She suspects that her brother's campaigning reputation in Romania may be behind what she regards as trumped-up criminal charges.

"If what you do for a living is go about turning over stones to see what creepy-crawlies are there, you are bound to make enemies," she said.

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FROM SOME OF THE STEEPEST
HIMALAYAN SLOPES.
YOU CAN FIND THEM ON
OUR FAR LESS
PERILOUS GROUND FLOOR.

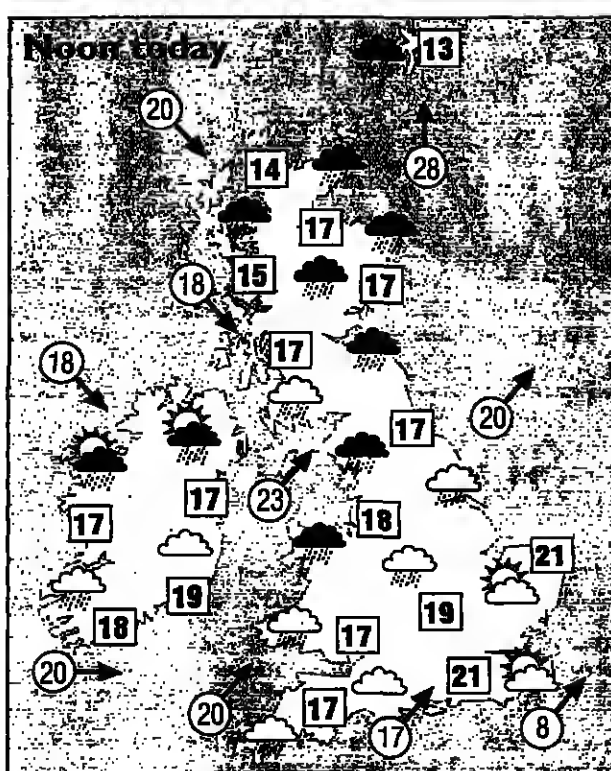


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BRITAIN TODAY



OUTLOOK

Dull, wet and very windy this morning over Scotland and Northern Ireland with some heavy rain and hill fog. Later on brighter weather will start to move in from the Atlantic, with sunny spells in the west and scattered showers. Rain and fresh winds will spread across England and Wales, with some heavy rain in the north. East Angles and south-east England will, however, have a mostly dry bright and warm day with some sunshine in the morning and no rain until later.

NEXT FEW DAYS

Tuesday and Wednesday will see outbreaks of rain over Scotland and Northern Ireland but over southern Scotland will be drier. England and Wales will have more sun, with the best of it in the south on Wednesday and it will become warmer. Thursday and Friday will stay changeable in the far north but most of the country will be dry and warmer. There will be more sun, and the east and south will become very hot.

YESTERDAY

BRITISH ISLES WEATHER						
Most recent available figure at noon local time. KEY: C: Cloudy; S: Partly; B: Breeze; F: Fog; H: Haze; M: Rain; H: Heavy; Mg: Mist; S: Sleet; Sh: Shower; Sun: Sun; W: Wind; C: Clear	Abertillery	C 18.81	Dover	F 16.64	London	C 16.64
	Anglesey	F 18.64	Dublin	C 16.61	Manchester	F 18.64
	Armagh	C 15.55	Edinburgh	C 18.84	Newcastle	F 19.66
	Belfast	C 18.61	Exeter	F 26.88	Nottingham	F 19.64
	Blackpool	F 16.64	Glasgow	C 15.59	Oxford	F 17.83
	Birmingham	F 16.64	Guernsey	F 18.64	Reading	F 19.64
	Bristol	F 16.64	Harrogate	F 18.64	Sheffield	F 18.64
	Cardiff	F 17.85	Leeds	F 17.83	Southampton	F 26.68
	Carlisle	F 18.84	Liverpool	F 18.88	Southend	C 12.54
	Exeter	F 18.84	London	F 18.88	Swansea	F 18.88
Gloucester	F 18.84	Manchester	F 18.88	Warrington	F 18.88	
Leeds	F 18.84	Newcastle	F 18.88	Widnes	F 18.88	
Liverpool	F 18.88	Nottingham	F 18.88	Wigan	F 18.88	
Manchester	F 18.88	Oxford	F 18.88	Wolverhampton	F 18.88	
Newcastle	F 18.88	Reading	F 18.88	Wrexham	F 18.88	
Nottingham	F 18.88	Sheffield	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Oxford	F 18.88	Southampton	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Reading	F 18.88	Southend	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Sheffield	F 18.88	Swansea	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Southampton	F 18.88	Warrington	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Southend	F 18.88	Widnes	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Swansea	F 18.88	Wigan	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Warrington	F 18.88	Wolverhampton	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Widnes	F 18.88	Wrexham	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Wigan	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Wolverhampton	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Wrexham	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	
Wye	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	Wye	F 18.88	

LIGHTING UP TIMES

	21.23	to	05.37
Belfast	21.23	to	05.37
Birmingham	20.58	to	05.30
Bristol	20.47	to	05.37
Glasgow	21.22	to	05.25
London	20.47	to	05.27
Manchester	21.04	to	05.27
Newcastle	21.08	to	05.18

HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London	09:18	5.8	21:47	5.6
Liverpool	06:41	7.2	19:24	7.3
Avonmouth	01:54	9.7	14:38	9.5
Hull when tide	01:38	7.0	14:13	6.9
Greenock	01:30	2.8	20:31	2.6
Dun Laoghaire	07:40	5.5	20:10	5.5

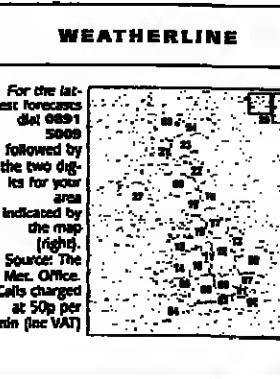
AIR QUALITY

	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	O ₃
London	Mod	Low	Gd
S England	Gd	Low	Gd
Wales	Gd	Low	Gd
C England	Gd	Low	Gd
Scotland	Gd	Low	Gd
N Ireland	Gd	Low	Gd

SUN & MOON

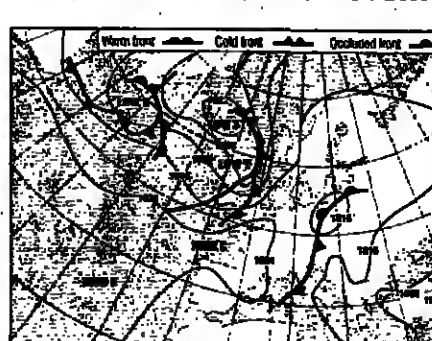
Sun rises:	08:25
Sun sets:	20:47
Moon rises:	15:51
Moon sets:	00:44
Full moon August 8th.	

WEATHERLINE



THE WORLD

ATLANTIC CHART, NOON TODAY



High C will slip south-east and decline. High B will ridge north-east. Low S will edge north-east while Lows T and U move quickly east.

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

	21.23	to	05.37
Belfast	21.23	to	05.37
Birmingham	20.58	to	05.30
Bristol	20.47	to	05.37
Glasgow	21.22	to	05.25
London	20.47	to	05.27
Manchester	21.04	to	05.27
Newcastle	21.08	to	05.18

JP 11:50

Secret letters reveal how a deal to bring MI5 man back to UK collapsed



David Shayler and his girlfriend, Annie Machon, (left); the headquarters of MI5 (top); John Wadham (above left) and John Morris, the Attorney-General (right) *Alastair Miller/Sunday Times*

WHO IS DAVID SHAYLER?

DAVID SHAYLER developed a taste for espionage at university. He published extracts of the banned book *Spycatcher* in the campus newspaper before going into journalism.

After six months as a *Sunday Times* trainee he was deemed "not up to scratch" and asked to leave. He joined MI5 soon after.

A closer look at a school report, written shortly before he went to read English at Dundee University, might have alerted the service to his true nature. "He is a born rebel who likes to sail close to the wind," it said.

He was also said to have flaws which made him unsuited for espionage. Although ambitious and articulate, he displayed arrogance and a contempt for authority. He failed to rise very high in the service but had access to personal files.

One of his first jobs was in the department vetting government officials. Later he moved to F2, part of the branch dealing with counter-subversion. By 1993 he had moved again, specialising in monitoring international terrorism. He was assigned to the Libyan desk. Stuck as a higher executive officer earning £28,000 a year, Mr Shayler felt his career had begun to founder.

Within weeks of leaving the MI5 building for the last time in March 1997, he was touting a synopsis of a book. He disguised his revelations as the memoirs of a former female agent. But publishers, fearful of an expensive legal battle with the Government, decided not to buy it. Five months later, Mr Shayler took his story to *The Mail on Sunday* and began a self-imposed exile in Europe. It later emerged he was in France with his girlfriend, Annie Machon, who left MI5 the same day as him.

Mr Shayler is thought to have found exile trying, as it meant he missed televised football matches and could not go to watch his team, Middlesbrough. But he has not been idle and is said to have completed a draft version of a novel set around the British intelligence service.

KATE WATSON-SMYTH

CONFIDENTIAL letters between Government lawyers and Liberty, the civil rights group, reveal how tortuous negotiations to bring David Shayler back to the UK broke down.

John Wadham, director of Liberty and Mr Shayler's legal representative, had tried to set up an agreement with Roland Phillips, the Treasury Solicitor, who was acting for John Morris, the Attorney-General. Mr Shayler wanted an agreement that guaranteed him some sort of immunity from prosecution if he returned to Britain.

Last December, Mr Wadham wrote to Mr Phillips expressing his concern that a proposed agreement did not include an amnesty. "I should make it clear that the absence of a clearer indication from the Government that Mr Shayler is not likely to be prosecuted if he returns to the United Kingdom does cause some concern," Mr Wadham wrote.

At that time, a draft arrangement had already been drawn up in a "heads of agreement" document and Mr Wadham

BY STEVE CONNOR AND VANESSA THORPE

was trying to clarify the terms under which the government could withdraw its consent over any articles or books written by Mr Shayler.

The Government wanted control over the copyright on Mr Shayler's writing. Mr Wadham proposed that the Government should be able to withhold permission for Mr Shayler's writing only if it "discloses the operations, sources, methods of the security or intelligence agencies and such disclosure would result in actual damage to national security or the disclosure reveals the identities of staff of the security and intelligence agencies".

Mr Wadham said that Mr Shayler, a former *Sunday Times* journalist, wanted to earn a living out of writing and that he could not be expected to be bound by legal restrictions that go beyond the protection of MI5 and MI6 operations and agents.

Mr Wadham also said that Mr Shayler would be happy to

return the £40,000 he had already received from the *Mail on Sunday* for selling his story.

"However, it is necessary to recognise that most of this money has now been spent, and that if he returns to the UK he will need the balance to find accommodation and to live on until he finds other work. Any agreement would have to ensure that the debt could not be enforced for five years," Mr Wadham wrote.

Mr Wadham suggested in February that one way of speeding up negotiations would be for Mr Shayler and the Attorney-General to meet. "My client would be happy to arrange a venue in Paris for this," he wrote.

Roland Phillips sent a further draft agreement, complete with three draft annexes, to Mr Wadham that month. Mr Phillips emphasised the importance of keeping the negotiations secret. "I would also mention that I regard it as a condition of our discussion that they [the talks] should be conducted in strict confidence."

Mr Wadham tried to wrinkle out a reassurance from Mr Phillips that Annie Machon, Mr Shayler's girlfriend, would not be prosecuted. In a letter at the end of February, Mr Wadham wrote: "What I can say is that, if Annie Machon is charged, these negotiations will end immediately."

Once again, Mr Wadham tried to arrange a meeting directly between Mr Shayler and his legal advisers. "I have already suggested that one way of building bridges and further trust would be for a member of the Service (MI5) to go to Paris to meet my client."

Mr Wadham agreed that the negotiations should be kept confidential, but wanted some idea about how the government intended to "handle the press" if Mr Shayler returned to Britain.

At this point, Mr Wadham warned that a breakdown in the negotiations would also make the confidentiality clause null and void. "If no agreement is reached, we reserve the right to publish the details of the ne-

gotiations and to use them in subsequent proceedings," Mr Wadham wrote.

Further delays occurred in March when Roland Phillips received a bundle of documents from the *Mail on Sunday* relating to Mr Shayler's story.

The police had told Mr Wadham that they did not intend to arrest Annie Machon if she returned to Britain, but Roland Phillips wrote that this did not affect the circumstances of Mr Shayler whose case is "entirely separate".

Nevertheless, Mr Phillips wanted to know more about the book that Ms Machon was supposed to be writing. Mr Wadham told Mr Phillips it was a work of fiction and did not contain anything that should concern him.

Mr Phillips also made it clear that there could - at that point - be no immunity from prosecution for Mr Shayler. Mr Wadham accepted this but wanted the Attorney-General to assess the situation. "Once the decision not to prosecute has been made, real progress on this agreement will be possible."

Home Office had early tip-off

BY JANE HUGHES

THE exact circumstances surrounding David Shayler's arrest remain, somewhat like the former MI5 officer himself, shrouded in mystery.

Shayler, who was staying in Paris, was handcuffed and taken away for questioning by French police on Saturday night at the request of the British authorities.

The arrest came as early editions of *The Sunday Times* reported that Shayler and another former intelligence officer, Richard Tomlinson, were threatening to publish details of British spying operations, in defiance of government injunctions.

The Home Office insisted last night there was no connection between the timing of Shayler's arrest and the newspaper's later report that he had been about to reveal a plot by British intelligence to blow up Libya's Colonel Gaddafi.

However, a spokeswoman revealed that the Home Office had received an early tip-off about the newspaper's story. She said: "We were informed at the end of last week about the stories. David Shayler was making allegations for a number of months and the decision had already been taken for us

to request an extradition.

"This was part of the process which has happened to coincide with *The Sunday Times* story."

Scotland Yard confirmed Shayler had been arrested in connection with an ongoing investigation into a possible breach of the Official Secrets Act 1989, but a spokesman said he was unable to say how the arrest came about.

An executive at *The Sunday Times* last night dismissed any suggestion of a tip-off but was unable to comment further. Both the newspaper's editor and its managing editor were unavailable for comment.

But those close to Shayler,

who has been on the run for nearly a year, said they suspected *Sunday Times* reporters could have been "instrumental" in his arrest.

Shayler's girlfriend, Annie Machon, told the BBC's Breakfast with Frost that he was arrested in a bar where he had gone to watch a football match.

Three police officers who later went to her room to get his passport told her he was being taken to the Ministry of the Interior.

She said she was "upset and also very angry" as Shayler was negotiating with the Attorney-General over his return to Britain when he was arrested.

An MI5 source was yesterday reported as saying that the agency had known about Shayler's whereabouts ever since he went public with his criticisms last year.

The *Mail on Sunday*, which covered Shayler's original revelations and his plans to launch his own Internet site two weeks ago, quoted the source as saying: "We had our ways of tracking him. But it was felt at the top floor that there would be less fuss if we left him to rot abroad rather than drag him back into the courts."

A High Court injunction bans publication of details of Shayler's claims in Britain.

Thoroughbred 'filly' was really a colt

BY SUE MONTGOMERY

IT COULD, with accuracy if not delicacy, be called a bit of a balls-up. A horse called Perigoux took part in the 7.25 race at Hamilton Park on Saturday evening instead of his stablemate, Royal Dream.

The episode was a case of mistaken identity, nothing more sinister.

But yesterday those closest to the horses, among 100 trained by Jack Berry at Cockermouth, in Lancashire, were not only apologetic but also deeply embarrassed. For although the pair are, at a glance, similar looking - both bays, with a small white mark on their foreheads - there is one fairly important difference.

Perigoux, you see, is a colt and Royal Dream is a filly. And the question that is begged is how a collection of so-called ex-

perts at the Lanarkshire track could have failed to notice that a contestant in a race confined to the fair sex (the Glengoyne Single Highland Malt Fillies Handicap, to be precise) was, in fact, hung like a ... or ... um ... horse.

Among those who failed to spot the mistake were the trainer's son, Alan, who was supervising the stable's runners, the joint owner, the retired trainer Gerry Blum, who helped saddle his colt, the jockey, John Carroll, course officials, the starter and even the paddockside pun-dits.

Perigoux duly finished last, which was no surprise, given that this was a two-year-old running in error against three-year-olds. It was only after the

7.25	REF GLENGOYNE HANDICAP (FILLIES)
1	ROYAL DREAM (10) 12.00
2	PERIGOUX (11) 12.00
3	... (12) 12.00
4	... (13) 12.00
5	... (14) 12.00
6	... (15) 12.00
7	... (16) 12.00
8	... (17) 12.00
9	... (18) 12.00
10	... (19) 12.00
11	... (20) 12.00

Trainer Jack Berry (right) and the card for the race in which Royal Dream should have competed (top), and the one in which Perigoux was due to run



Berry senior's wife, Jo, said yesterday: "We are so sorry. The lad with the horse brought him from the racecourse stables to the saddling boxes rather late and Alan and Gerry just shoved the tack on quickly. It was Alan himself who informed the stewards what had

happened. And perhaps it explains why the horse was unusually uppity down at the start, as a colt surrounded by all those fillies. Never mind Royal Dream, it's just a bad dream. It makes us all look like incompetent amateurs."

Although wrong horses have, on occasion, been sent out to race in the past, it is thought this is the first time a colt has been mistaken for a filly or vice versa.

The big bookmaking firms have agreed to refund bets to the punters who backed the so-called Royal Dream, the 7.2 second favourite for the six-furlong contest, but those on-course were not so lucky. The matter has been referred to the Jockey Club, which will hold an inquiry and doubtless levy a fine in due course.



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North-east's jewel quickly lost its shine

OUTSIDE THE entrance to Newcastle upon Tyne's railway station is a billboard poster emblazoned with the words "Fish Into Chips - From Mackerel Economy To Micro Technology. Invest In North Tyneside - Siemens Did."

The local council was rightly proud of the Siemens microprocessor plant in Wallsend, a few miles north of the city. No one could have predicted what came next. When the £1.1bn plant was opened by the Queen 15 months ago, it was hailed as a major endorsement of the region's future in high-tech manufacturing.

It was the "jewel in the crown", a "flagship for North-east revival" and men and women - many of them couples, flocked to Tyneside to build their futures around this factory for the 21st century.

But as if the North-east had not been dealt enough body blows in recent years, it happened again - only this time, it wasn't the closure of a traditional heavy engineering enterprise, such as coal mining or ship building, but the death of a factory dedicated to the most modern of manufacturing in-

BY CLARE GARNER

dustries - microchips. "So, welcome to the dark, satanic mills," said Ross Forbes, Siemens' public relations manager as we approached the shiny, futuristic building. "Look at it. Does it look like the sort of place you're going to can?"

Mr Forbes has had longer than most to get his head around the idea that the state-of-the-art plant is going to close. He was informed last Monday, five days before Siemens' president Dr Ulrich Schumacher, flew to Britain to break the news to the 1,100 staff. Employees' reactions were "incredibly disciplined", said Mr Forbes. "Within half a day they were literally back to production as normal, which is an absolute credit to the people here."

David Clemes and his wife, Rita, both 41, bought the dream. "It was one of those opportunities you just could not turn down," he said explaining why they had sold their home near Glasgow and moved to the North-east. They both got jobs at Siemens and, with salaries adding up to a total of £65,000 a year, had confidently signed

up to a £100,000 mortgage in nearby North Shields. "Personally, I thought of it as a long-term plan. I have no intention of moving," he said.

But now it looks as if Mr and Mrs Clemes will be leaving behind their new life in North Shields, hopefully to take up positions within Siemens on the Continent. "It's a brilliant place here. We've really enjoyed it," he said. "I don't know how you define 'best', but it's probably been some of the happiest times we've ever had, being here."

The saving grace, however, has been the way in which Siemens has handled the situation. "You can't soften this blow, but one of the things we've been able to pick out are the positives is that we are guaranteed another year's salary from now on."

Although Siemens has no legal obligation to do so, it is offering six months' severance pay to anyone who stays on until January. Anyone who wishes to go immediately gets two months' pay. The training wing has been turned into a "job shop", where workers can turn for advice. Lew Avis, personnel director, was the first employee

at the Wallsend plant. Even if the company had to slim down its workforce - in fact especially if it had had to - his job was safe. "If anything happens in this industry, you think your labour. You don't decide to close a wonderful, modern plant like this. It has never been done before," he said.

While Mr Avis understands

the cause of closure - the notoriously volatile international electronics market and, in particular, the "suicidal pricing" of Asian competitors, as Siemens' chief executive put it - that doesn't make him feel any better. "My job was to bring people in," he said. "And now suddenly, I'll have to take them all out

again." The Siemens factory was the biggest single investment in the North-east, but now it adds its name to the region's death toll. In 1992, it was coal mining; in 1994, it was ship building; and now, in 1998, it is new technology's premature turn.

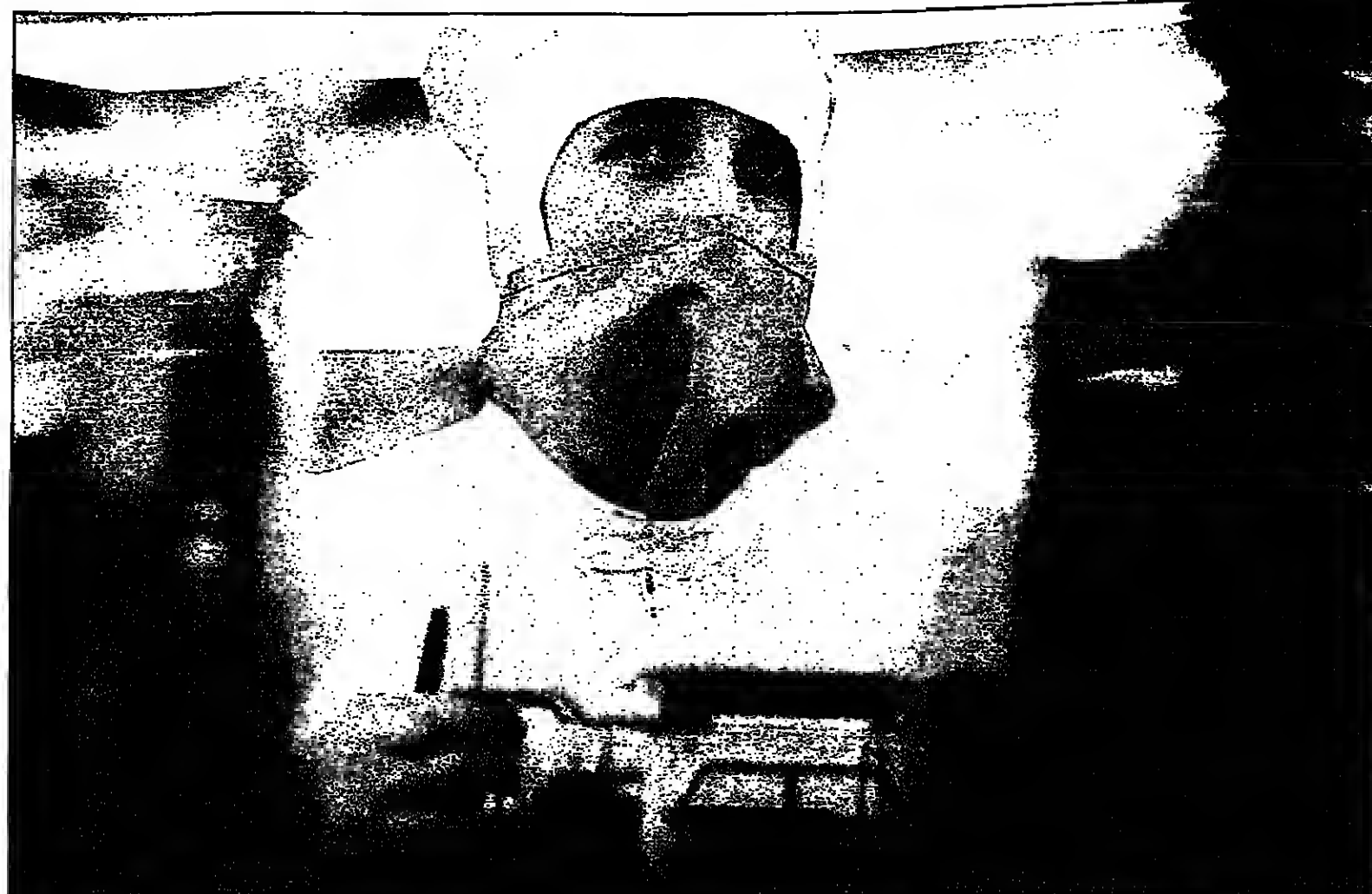
"This is a severe setback for the North-east," said Rita

Stringfellow, Labour leader of North Tyneside council. "But the resilience and the confidence of the area will win out in the long run."

John Hamilton, the council's economic development director, said that the impact of the closure would extend right across the region. "The fear is

that despite major inward investment we are still vulnerable to closures," he said. The Wallsend plant placed £75m in orders with 250 UK suppliers, many of them local firms.

One delivery owner said: "Siemens was my business. I just drove for them. With them gone, my firm is finished."



A worker in a clean room at Siemens' factory in Newcastle, one of the most advanced production units in the world, which is closing. Rui Xavier

"Do I like shopping by phone? No, I much prefer dragging my kids around a supermarket for 3 hours."



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CS spray 'justified' in psychiatric cases

THE USE OF CS spray against mental health patients was defended today by the Association of Chief Police Officers.

The spray was used to "protect police officers and others nearby from violent behaviour" when methods of "peaceful persuasion" had failed, said an ACPO spokesman.

His comments follow revelations in the *Independent* on Sunday yesterday of a report by Maudsley Psychiatric Hospital in London that CS spray was being used "inappropriately".

Staff were being impeded from treating patients sprayed with the substance because they were also being affected, said a hospital spokesman.

"There are cases where CS spray is being used inappropriately in non-violent situations."

"It is used to restrain and subdue patients before bringing them into hospital."

But the ACPO said the report, a nationwide survey of mental health trusts, gave no data to back up the claims and was "mainly anecdotal comment".

The use of CS spray was carefully regulated. The spray was used only in self-defence by police officers who had been trained in its use.

"The suggestion that CS spray should not be used against mental health patients is absurd and extremely dangerous, not just to police officers but to staff and other patients," he said.

One of the report's authors, Fraser Bell, a senior research nurse at the Maudsley Psychiatric Hospital, called for an end to the use of CS spray

against mental health patients. He worked on the survey with the hospital's director of clinical services, Ben Thomas, and believes nurses and police should meet and discuss the reduction of its use.

"There is a minority of cases where it is being used as a first line of defence instead of a last line of defence," he said.

"There are concerns about its possible lasting effects on mental health patients. We want to see some scientific research into this. What did the police do before they had CS spray? They used their powers of persuasion."

He also warned that nursing staff were suffering because they were getting particles of the chemical on their clothes and skin after trying to treat patients affected by CS spray.

IN BRIEF

Faults found on 265 coaches

A NATIONWIDE police safety check on coaches and buses has found that one in eight have mechanical faults. Operation Tourist stopped 2,122 passenger vehicles during Saturday's blitz in 40 police force areas up and down the country. Faults were found on 265 of the vehicles, with a total of 97 being ordered off the road immediately. None was involved in any accidents.

Beekeepers unite against mite

BRITISH beekeepers are being urged to take part in a week of concerted action against a deadly parasite which is wiping out huge colonies of honey bees. The British Beekeepers' Association is launching National Varroa Week in response to the damage caused by the varroa mite. Varroa, which arrived in Britain in 1993, weakens the natural defences of bees, leaving them susceptible to viruses and predators like wasps. The most heavily infested areas are in the south, but the problem is spreading northwards.

Village siege continues

POLICE, fire and ambulance crews yesterday spent their second night at a siege at an isolated house close to the village of Buttonoak, near Bewdley, Worcestershire. One man had been inside the house since Saturday lunchtime and was refusing to come out. Specially trained negotiators were at the scene trying to persuade him to leave peacefully. No one else was involved and there was no immediate danger to the public, a police spokesman said.

One ticket takes the lot

ONE TICKET holder scooped last night's £9.3 million National Lottery jackpot. The winner collects £9,316,974 after matching the winning numbers 12, 14, 31, 41, 48 and 49. Nine tickets which matched five numbers plus the bonus ball - 6 - win £318,529 each.

TREVOR PHILLIPS

'There's no reason to be ashamed of a Northern voice, but that doesn't mean you want every Tom, Dick or Harry using it'

— THE MONDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4 ➔

'Wrong results' fears calmed

BY SUSAN DOYLE

GOVERNMENT officials have demanded reassurances that thousands of A-level students will receive the right exam results after fears of computer error.

The Department for Education and Employment said it was "concerned" over newspaper reports that a switch to a new computer system might cause some pupils to be sent the wrong exam results.

But Oxford and Cambridge Examinations and Assessment Council officials insisted they were on target to deliver the right results by August 20.

A spokesman for the exam board said: "We did have some problems earlier in the year, and there was a delay in getting all the right papers to the right schools and colleges. But this was all sorted out very early on, and now all pupils have sat the right exams, and they have been marked. The papers are just waiting to be graded."

A report in yesterday's *Observer* says many students were mistakenly entered on to a new computer system where their names were matched against the wrong subjects.

A spokesman for the Department of Education and Employment said: "Ministers would be very concerned if there was any danger of students not receiving correct results on the due date."

1500 1500

BBC's £1m offer to McDonald

A GAME of newsreader musical chairs looked set to break out yesterday when it emerged that the BBC is trying to poach Trevor McDonald from ITN.

The BBC already has a number of its star newscasters worrying about their futures whilst it undertakes a root and branch review of its news programmes.

Now Sir John Birt, the BBC's Director General and Alan Yentob, Director of Television, have asked McDonald to present one of the corporation's flagship bulletins for a reported £1m a year.

McDonald, 58, has been ITN's main evening news presenter since 1992. However, his contract is up for renewal and there is some uncertainty about the future of his news bulletins on both the BBC and ITV.

BY PAUL MCCANN
Media Editor

The ITV companies which buy news from ITN are keen to move News at Ten to an earlier slot next year to allow films and drama programmes to be shown uninterrupted in the late evening. A 6.30 bulletin to replace News at Ten is one favoured option.

Meanwhile BBC newsreaders like Peter Sissons and Michael Buerk have been told their contracts will not be renewed ahead of a long delayed review of news output at the BBC. The corporation started its news review last year after research showed its programmes were too concentrated on politics and had declining appeal among younger viewers.

Trevor McDonald is thought by some of the BBC to have a lighter, more accessible presenting style that could bring viewers back. McDonald's solo presence at News at Ten is credited with giving the programme a lead over the Nine O'clock News in the ratings.

Last year News at Ten had an average audience of six million to the Nine O'clock News' 5.4m. The BBC programme's ratings were particularly badly hit during the general election when its extended running time turned viewers off.

McDonald is thought perfect for a magazine-style news programme, which may replace the Six O'clock News. This new spin show has been dubbed "Son of Nationwide" by BBC insiders after the Sevenies magazine programme.

A BBC news spokesman said yesterday: "There is a lot of speculation going on about who might come and go both at the BBC and ITV. But there has been no formal approach made to Trevor McDonald from the BBC."

Because ITV is also changing its current affairs output and on the hunt for star anchors the BBC last week secured top presenter Jeremy Paxman's future with the corporation by signing him up to present Newsnight and Radio 4's Start The Week for four years at a cost of £1m. Independent producers bidding for a new hour-long current affairs show on ITV had hoped to use Paxman as the programme's main presenter. The new ITV show will be based on the long-running American programme 60 Minutes.



Trevor McDonald: His accessible presenting style has attracted the BBC

Marines ban all rites for recruits

BY CAHAL MILMO

BRUTAL INITIATION rites for Royal Marine recruits were banned years ago, the elite corps says after claims from a former soldier that he was tortured by comrades.

Former physical training instructor Billy Ideson said that he and colleagues were ritually humiliated and beaten during a brutal ceremony within hours of their passing-out parade at the corps training centre in Lympstone, Devon.

The 32-year-old former Commando corporal said that the ordeal involved him being kicked and punched as he was dragged by a rope, struck on the genitals, and thrown into a waste pit.

The Ministry of Defence said an investigation was being launched into the claims made in the News of the World yesterday but stressed the practice of unofficially "blood-ing" new recruits was now a thing of the past.

The Royal Marines does not tolerate any form of initiation ceremony; however, allegations have been made through the media and they will be the subject of an investigation," said a spokesman.

"It was recognised that such rituals were getting out of hand and they were stopped a long time ago — there is no suggestion that this sort of thing is happening now."

George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence, has pledged a campaign to stamp out bullying and harassment in the armed forces. A confidential telephone hotline was set up last year to encourage servicemen and women to come forward.

Mr Ideson, from Exeter, Devon, told the newspaper that the initiation ceremony had featured multiple humiliations — including hot tea bags being pushed between his buttocks, and heated spoons being used to burn him. "No one talks about what goes on and you're not supposed to ever refer to it again." It is understood the incident happened 10 years ago.

HEADLINE FIGURES: THE NEWSCASTERS WHO CAN NAME THEIR OWN PRICE

	Martyn Lewis	Julia Somerville	Jeremy Paxman	Kirsty Young	Anna Ford	Trevor McDonald
Age	53	50	48	29	54	58
Job	Presenter of BBC Six O'clock News (BBC1, weekdays)	Reads lunchtime bulletins at ITN	Presenter of Newsnight until 2002, future presenter of Start the Week	Fronts Channel 5 News	Occasional presenter of the Today programme and BBC1's Six O'clock News	Front man for News at Ten five nights a week
Salary	£150,000 end of 1997	More than £125,000 pa (Nov 1995 figure)	£1 million	Around £750,000 a year	£150,000 end of 1997	Could be £1 million package, if he accepts Birt's offer
Strengths	Swept all before him in 1986 when he returned to the BBC after a spell as a reporter and a newsreader at ITN. His affable manner has made him a ratings winner, just pipping Michael Buerk to the title of housewives' favourite and beating that other old-timer, Peter Sissons, hands down.	Together with Carol Barnes, Somerville is one of the longest serving news presenters, with 11 years service at ITN. Won huge popular sympathy in 1992 when she had a brain tumour operation and her reputation as "Queen Bee Of ITN" was sealed last year when she was chosen to set the scene at the Princess of Wales' funeral.	Paxman joined the BBC from Cambridge and for many he now represents the ideals of the corporation. He spent six years on Panorama, but his entertaining sarcasm only became evident when he joined Newsnight in 1989. Not often side-tracked in interviews, and not considered "dubious", at least by the Garrick Club, who blackballed him.	In 1997 she was voted the "Outstanding New Talent of 1997" in the Variety Club's annual showbiz awards and was also recently invited to do a fashion shoot for Vogue. Not just visually appealing, her low-pitched, soothing Scottish accent has won her work on London-based Talk Radio's morning programme.	Joining ITN at the age of 34, she has managed to keep a reputation as serious and "glacial", despite once chucking wine over Jonathan Aitken, the then chief executive of TV-am, and, more recently, describing Sir Robin Day as a "silly old fool" for suggesting her success was based on sex appeal.	Opinion polls repeatedly put him at the top, although he has been reproached by the Independent Television Commission for being "too friendly" in his interview with John Major. His sonorous, deep voice has made him synonymous with newsy gravitas.
Prospects	His standing was damaged in the news fraternity by the infamous good news campaign when he attacked broadcasters for their downbeat news values. He is seen as increasingly lightweight and now presents quizzes as well as Songs Of Praise.	Her celebrity status has always been held back by her concern to be seen as a journalist rather than a TV personality. She has outlasted the faddish successes of former rivals like Selina Scott. Her superb diction and print training have stood her in good stead although she lost out to Trevor McDonald in the battle for News at Ten.	First suggested for the job that McDonald is now being offered, but recently named as successor to Lord Bragg as presenter of Radio 4's Start The Week in a new wide-ranging four-year deal with the BBC. His famous sneer may prevent him from becoming a popular mainstream presenter. He is also believed to be unloved by John Birt.	Contractually not available to other channels until the year 2000, when her deal with Channel 5 runs out. Considered to be the key ingredient for those hoping to attract younger viewers.	Younger women are now challenging Miss Ford's position at the head of the pack. Her role on the Today programme has been undermined by the progress of Winifred Robinson and by the controversy surrounding her brusque handling of Kenneth Clarke. On TV, fresh stars such as ITN's Katie Derham, 27, look increasingly likely to attract the really big contracts.	Could not be better. The BBC want him to bring their key bulletins some much-needed popular appeal.
...and finally	BBC news insiders consider him "virtually unsalvageable" because of the affection in which he is held.	When she joined ITN it was said that she insisted changing the decor of a newsroom and colleagues apparently called her Kirsty Carrington, after the Dynasty character.	Tony Hall, the chief executive of BBC news, said: "Jeremy's journalistic authority has played a major role in Newsnight becoming the leading television programme for hard analysis."	ITN executive looking for News at Ten anchors of the future: "Kirsty is a definite option".	Desmond Wilcock, who worked with the young Ford, says "she has no sense of humour".	One ITV executive working on the plans to move News at Ten back to 11 pm said: "Viewers love Trevor and we need him to help smooth the transition."

Kerb-crawlers offered aversion therapy course

PERSISTENT KERB crawlers are to be given the chance to go to reform school instead of facing a court appearance.

The one-day course, which is the first of its kind in this country, has been developed by Leeds Metropolitan University in conjunction with West Yorkshire Police.

Although kerb crawling is not an arrestable offence, under the 1986 Sexual Offences Act police are able to report, caution and summons men who solicit from their vehicles. Officers will have their details forwarded to West Yorkshire Police's criminal justice support unit, who will offer them the choice between a

BY LISA KLIMAN
AND KATE WATSON-SMYTH

court appearance and a day at the school. The course will cost £110, comparable with a fine.

The school will run monthly classes and accommodate a maximum of 20 men, who will spend their day participating in a variety of workshops, focusing on health, gender, sociological and legislative issues.

Speakers will include the Rev George Moffitt, who will discuss prostitution and its effects on the community, and Irene Ivson, whose daughter, Fiona, was murdered by a client.

Mrs Ivson said: "I will tell them that she was a beautiful,

bright girl with everything to live for — that we had tried desperately to keep her away from this pimp. She could have been their daughter, niece, sister."

Fiona Broadfoot, an ex-prostitute who spent 13 years working in Leeds and who now runs Exit, a self-help group for prostitutes, will also speak.

A spokesman for West Yorkshire Police said one of the key objectives of the scheme was to target first-time offenders and offer them an alternative which guarantees their anonymity.

The school was inspired by an American equivalent, which was founded in San Francisco three years ago by Norma Hal-

ling, a former prostitute. Nicknamed "The John School", out of 1,400 men who have completed the course, only four have been re-arrested.

Julie Bindel, assistant director of the Centre for Violence, Abuse and Gender at the university, said the British version would be slightly different. "The American project deals much more with sex addiction and education, whereas this one will be concentrating on social education."

West Yorkshire Police assistant chief constable, Norman Bettison, said: "Any scheme that promises the sort of returns that this one does from where it's been tried elsewhere in the US is worth supporting."

Pearly gates open to angels

AT THE risk of sounding blasphemous, it was the voice-over on Heaven's opening night which proclaimed that on the sixth day God created man and man created... Heaven.

During two decades of its corporeal club existence, Heaven has closed its hallowed doorway only twice. Once to get rid of an infestation of cockroaches and secondly, this April, to undergo a multi-million pound face-lift.

In a gay scene increasingly populated by brewery franchise bars in stringy sheets of steel, the pressure for grungy old clubs to spruce up is intense. And as anyone who has ever ventured down the shabby stairway off Villiers Street will tell you, Heaven was growing tired and bleak.

But, no longer — Heaven is back on earth, and we found our place in the queue for nirvana among a group of lads attempting "angelic" out of large paper tablecloths, and a gaggle of fluffy girls in wings and halos.

Entering the foyer, after the familiar hassle at the door,

FIRST NIGHT
HEAVEN
VILLIERS STREET
LONDON

the major difference was a series of silver disks suspended from walls and ceiling. The New Heaven logo danced under a flaming torch and the old red school banisters were out in favour of sleek metal. A glass-collector scuttled past wearing a T-shirt proclaiming "The Second Coming".

After the obligatory lap, and

carefully avoiding the minefield of New Virgin promotions, we settled down with a pint.

Most changed was the corridor of cruise. What used to be a grim highway for pushers, and a halfhearted hot-dog stand, is pillar-box red with a smart, back-lit bar. The main dance floor is revolutionised by digitally fiddling lighting rigs and a lower balcony, and the ground floor holds a VIP departure lounge for the A-Gays. At the back of the building is a relaxed, rattan-filled café with gateway to the Sound Shaft.

And upstairs the new blue Star Bar has been refitted to enclose the dancers by creating two semi-circular bars at either end, while strangely purposeless blue blocks have been solidly set near the perimeter. The final port of call, the Dakota bar, has been stripped, refitted with banks of tiered wooden seating and soberly decorated. The overall feel is bigger and better.

As the evening unfolds to the sounds of Eighties trash and disco upstairs, and MOR house downstairs, it is easy to play the "spot-what's-the-same" game. The toilets, the tap pressure, and, tucked at the rear of the building, those red banisters. But there has been much spade-work in pursuit of a classier club, and, with three weeks' work pending, judgement should be withheld.

What is certain is that Heaven is back with its pearly gates wide open. And for a culture which doesn't pretend to have to grow up, somewhere fresher to while away long winter nights can be no bad thing.

NICK TAYLOR



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Industry and the Nazis: Auschwitz victim sues top firms that profited from concentration camp slave labour

The man who worked for VW – on a diet of worms



Rudy Kennedy is determined to make his wartime slavemasters pay for forcing him to work on the German war effort

Neville Elder

RUDY KENNEDY has worked for some of the most prestigious names in German industry, but they refused to pay him for his troubles.

Now he is determined to make them. Just because he was a Jewish prisoner of the Nazis when he performed his

BY LOUISE JURY

labours does not, he believes, exempt them from that duty. "They exploited us," he said.

Last week, at a meeting in north London, dozens of the former labourers heard details of a campaign to gain redress for

that exploitation – of meetings with the German and American ambassadors and talks with lawyers.

Mr Kennedy, 69, is one of at least 170 men and women in Britain who were forced to work for the German war effort. It was an alternative way of

killing them, for the average life expectancy of a slave labourer was just three months.

Mr Kennedy was 15 when he was sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp and set to work for a firm called IG Farben building a road. "The temperature was about

minus 10C. We were given wooden clogs but no socks, no underwear. We were freezing," he said. "I realised I couldn't survive it for very long."

After three weeks, his father managed to get them into an Auschwitz factory making electronic circuits for, he has since

established, Siemens. "I think I had one more week to live at that point," he said.

They worked 12-hour days on a piece of bread and two bowls of watery soup which gave them diarrhoea. The only protein they could get was the occasional worm.

Then, in January 1945, they were moved again, to work in Volkswagen's underground factories manufacturing the V1 "doodlebug" bomb and the V2 rocket.

Mr Kennedy ended the war a tubercular skeleton in Belsen. Although he later escaped to Britain and built a successful career as an electronic engineer and a businessman, the scars remain.

It was a recent visit to Auschwitz that made him reconsider his ordeal. "I had neglected for 50 years really talking about it. But I had promised my father on his deathbed that I would not forget it," he said. "I decided I had to do something."

He helped found the Claims for Jewish Slave Labour Compensation Association. It is not dedicated to helping the needy

as such, but to securing payment for the work its members carried out. They believe it is their right.

Mr Kennedy is unusual in knowing who he worked for. He has even received a small sum of money – around £500 – from IG Farben.

But many slave labourers have received nothing, while the companies they worked for prospered.

Many of the firms argue using slave labour was not their choice, although the Nuremberg trials decided to imprison the heads of some of the biggest – Flick, Krupp and IG Farben – as war criminals.

The source of the survivors' anger lies in the post-war negotiations, which agreed slave labourers were not entitled to compensation until there was a final peace treaty. Thanks to the Cold War that was never signed, leaving a legal escape clause.

Nevertheless, some firms gave money to the body set up to handle compensation. The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. But most specified it should

help Jewish organisations, not just individuals.

Mr Kennedy's group fears the claims conference is failing to represent its interests. A claims conference spokesman said it was a delicate matter. "I think they have every right to be angry, but not at us," he said.

However, its board has decided to make the slave labourers a priority. It is also pinning further hopes on the precedent set by Volkswagen, which announced last month that it would, in principle, pay compensation.

There are signs that the final accounting of the Holocaust now taking place might also help.

Just as Swiss banks have come under pressure, some believe German firms may have to do more for the slave labourers, or face international opprobrium.

The campaigners are certainly determined. In the words of another labourer, Roman Halter, at the meeting last week: "If we have to crawl on our knees because we can't walk any more, we will see that justice is done."



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'Anti-Semitic' letter referred to DPP

BY LOUISE JURY

JEWISH LEADERS are calling for the leading British supporter of controversial black leader Louis Farrakhan to be prosecuted over a letter they claim is anti-Semitic.

They have referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions a letter from Paul Twino of Operation Farrakhan.

Mr Farrakhan, who is based in America, has been accused of anti-Semitism and is currently banned from Britain for his outspoken views.

In the letter, to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, Mr Twino accused the Government of kowtowing to "your Hebraic puppeteers". He said the American leader had been vilified by "that loathsome and slanderous generation of Talmudic vipers known to the broad public as the Board of Deputies".

"With insolence unparalleled, the Jews have been shameless in their mutilation of the utterances... The absurdity of the false allegations levelled against the Honourable Minister Louis Farrakhan has



Farrakhan: Black leader is banned from Britain

been outweighed only by their sheer vindictiveness."

The letter, sent to Mr Straw on 10 July and copied to the Board of Deputies of British Jews and many MPs, concluded: "I wish to forewarn you that if the exclusion order is not terminated, this nation will face demonstrations that will make the Drummer donnybrook look like a stroll in a park."

Neville Nagler, director general of the Board of Deputies, which represents the Jewish community in Britain, said the

language was "consistently of fensive and insulting".

"It is highly abusive towards Jewish people and has many passages which reflect the writer's hatred towards members of our community. It might incite followers of the Nation of Islam to hatred against Jews."

The board thinks the letter breaches the 1986 Public Order Act, which states it is an offence to use abuse or insulting words to stir up racial hatred.

A spokeswoman for the Director of Public Prosecutions said they had received the letter and were considering it. Paul Twino said he thought his characterisation of the Board of Deputies was justified in the context.

The board had criticised Mr Farrakhan on the basis of comments taken out of context from the minister's speeches.

Mr Twino said: "I didn't mean to offend anyone. But I would be more than happy to defend in a public forum or at court what I wrote."

He said the exclusion was unjustified and they would continue to fight to have it lifted.

Child mental ills 'ignored'

ONE IN five children and young people experiences mental health problems – yet few receive the help they need, a survey has shown.

Two million youngsters in Britain suffer some form of mental health problem, ranging from behavioural difficulties and depression, to anorexia, according to research published by the Mental Health Foundation. But only 10-15 per cent of those with psychiatric disorders get psychiatric help.

Abuse of family and friends, boredom, huffing and stress are key factors which contribute to poor mental health in children, according to the report, while talking is seen

BY RACHEL ELLIS

as one of the best ways of coping with negative feelings.

The report, produced by the Centre for the Child and Society at the University of Glasgow, said many children played down the importance of their feelings and, if they had problems, did not know where to turn for help. Children and young people often trivialised their problems because they were young and believed that adult problems were "more important".

But the report, entitled *Listening to Children and Young People*, recommended that more young people should be given more information about mental

health so they can recognise the symptoms of illness and know where to turn for help.

The Mental Health Foundation, which commissioned the research, said children's views should be seen as valuable and relevant. It is estimated that 25-30 per cent of GP appointments with children concern behavioural problems.

The charity's director, June McKerrrow, said: "Too few people take the mental health of children and young people sufficiently seriously. We hope to change that... it is vitally important to listen to the ways young people express their feelings and to watch for signs of deeper distress."

JP 11/08/98

War of words: Darling makes diplomatic bid to end acrimony over resignation of 'wrong-headed' Frank Field



Happier days for Frank Field in his Whitehall office, when he was still the Minister for Welfare Reform

Mike Moore

Labour plans major policy shift over welfare reforms

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday signalled a major shift in its policy towards welfare reform from "thinking the unthinkable" to "doing what is practically possible".

As if moved to put a line under a bitter war of words surrounding the acrimonious departure of Frank Field from the government, Alistair Darling, new Social Security secretary, indicated that the clash was not about personalities but about policy. The message yesterday from ministers was that some of Mr Field's ideas were simply wrong-headed.

Mr Darling, former Chief

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

Secretary to the Treasury said: "There is room for debate, discussion and argument about the whole nature of welfare reform and the welfare state, but there does come a time when you've got to move from these general discussions to what is practically possible."

Mr Field, who resigned as number two in the Social Security department amid the ministerial reshuffle last week, was described yesterday by an anonymous senior colleague as "a joke" and others sug-

gested that his ideas were "paltry and unpublishable".

Mr Field, MP for Birkenhead, rounded on Harriet Harman, the former Social Security secretary, for blocking his ideas. In a personal statement to the House of Commons last week he indicated that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been the main opponent of reform.

Both Mr Darling and Jack Cunningham, the new Cabinet "enforcer" confirmed yesterday that Mr Field had demanded to be made head of the Social Security department in succession to Ms Harman. Mr Darling said such a request would have

been "impossible" and Mr Cunningham said on Prime Minister could have possibly given in to such a demand.

Mr Field had been charged by Tony Blair with "thinking the unthinkable" when he was appointed as a minister. Yesterday the Government seemed to have more modest ambitions.

Mr Field continued yesterday to fight shy of attacking Mr Blair. The Birkenhead MP said his ideas had got "lost on the way" to Number Ten. Ms Harman, his former boss, had been responsible for "losing" them. He told the Sunday People: "The whole department simply

did not function for a long period of time. Nothing happened.

"In the end I ceased to put projects forward because nothing ever happened. They'd be run into the sand, disappear into a black hole."

One of Mr Field's main opponents in the Cabinet was the Chancellor who sought to introduce a means-tested minimum pension. Mr Field believes that corrupts the poor and penalises the thrifty.

Significantly, Mr Darling declined an opportunity to defend the former Social Security minister against anonymous allegations that he was "a joke". Mr

Darling said simply that he had made a useful contribution to the government and would continue to do so from the back benches.

Iain Duncan-Smith, Shadow Social Security secretary, said the Prime Minister had now admitted his programme for welfare reform had failed. Attacks from unnamed ministers had "highlighted the hole at the heart" of policy. "By claiming that Frank Field's ideas were unrealistic, the Government has admitted that no real welfare reform was taking place."

Leading article,
Review, page 3

WHAT HE SAID
ABOUT THEM

Brown will corrupt poor, says Field

"I want to speak publicly and campaign in public for all the things I know need doing but which I was frustrated from doing when in office." - in an exclusive interview in the Sunday People

"Incentives to work and save are fatally undermined." - the Sunday People

"In the end I ceased to even put projects forward because nothing ever happened. They'd be run into the sand, disappear into a black hole." - the Sunday People

"Whenever he [the Prime Minister] got personally involved in something it would happen... In my case, it was clearly very easy for the message to get lost on the way to Downing Street."

"It is entirely true that Gordon was trying to block my ideas on pensions... [Brown's plans for a means tested minimum pension] 'would be a corrupting influence on people' - the Sunday Telegraph

WHAT THEY SAID
ABOUT HIM

Ministers call Frank Field 'a failed joke'

Gordon Brown said Field's ideas would have cost the taxpayer "billions". Other ministers joined the fray, putting the cost of implementing his proposals at £20 billion. "All Brown did was to ask the difficult questions which exposed the shallowness of his plans," said a member of the cabinet's welfare group.

Cabinet "enforcer" Jack Cunningham accused Field of forcing the Prime Minister's hand by demanding a promotion to the Cabinet during the reshuffle. "That's not the kind of pressure any Prime Minister is going to accept," he said.

The Prime Minister's spokesman: Field's talents "not best suited to running a government department" and his proposals "never took the form of policy capable of being implemented by a government".

Alistair Darling: "Of course this is an area where there needs to be a debate and discussion, but the point comes where you have to implement reform."

An anonymous ministerial colleague said his Green Paper had to be rewritten by Downing Street because the first draft was unpublishable: "He let us down in office and now he has let us down out of office."

Threat to Blair's new PR vision

TONY BLAIR'S vision of a new all powerful centre left force in British politics could be critically undermined by the views of his senior colleagues including the Chancellor of the Exchequer, according to senior government sources.

The key catalyst for such a new radical movement - the introduction of proportional representation - is said to be opposed by around three-quarters of the cabinet.

Without fundamental electoral reform, Mr Blair would fail to build a lasting alliance with Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, an admirer of the Prime Minister and someone who is keen to redraw the political map.

Although he has made no public statement on the issue, it is understood that one of

BY BARRIE CLEMENT

the leading opponents of PR is Gordon Brown - a fact that could lead to further friction between the occupants of Downing Street. The Chancellor may be keen to give the issue a higher profile, after his influence on government was weakened by last week's ministerial reshuffle.

Other senior politicians with serious reservations about such a voting system are Jack Straw, the Home Secretary; John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister; Frank Dobson, Health Secretary; Margaret Beckett, the Leader of the Commons; Nick Brown, Agriculture minister; and Stephen Byers, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Only Peter Mandelson, Secretary of

State for Trade and Industry, Chris Smith, Culture Secretary and Robin Cook, Foreign Secretary have so far registered any enthusiasm for electoral reform and the latter has seen his influence wane in recent months.

Mr Blair has already said he is "unpersuaded" by the need for a new system for elections. But he appointed Lord Jenkins as chairman of a commission which is reviewing the present first-past-the-post arrangement and alternatives to it.

Lord Jenkins, a founder of the breakaway Social Democratic Party and now a Liberal Democrat peer, is expected by some sources close to the commission to recommend radical change. The issue is likely to surface at both the

Trades Union Congress in September and at the annual conference of the Labour Party in October. It is argued that the Jenkins report has been delayed until 26 October so that it would not fan the flames of any revolt among party delegates.

Some ministers might agree to a watered-down version of PR, but that would be unlikely to win the unequivocal support of Mr Ashdown.

Without thorough-going change the Liberal Democrat leader would find it difficult to persuade his party to develop strong links with Labour.

The Prime Minister will come under considerable pressure to back Lord Jenkins, having appointed him to the post as chairman of the commission. Pressure will also be

applied by Mr Ashdown who has refused to rule himself out of a cabinet post in a government formed by a new alliance.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer may feel that the issue is something of a burning fuse for the Prime Minister, his close political friend, but great rival.

Apart from scepticism amongst ministers, it may also be difficult to persuade Labour's big union affiliates, who still command 50 per cent of the votes at policy-making conferences. There is some doubt whether local political activists would be comfortable with a liaison with the Liberal Democrats.

Labour pragmatists will also contend that there is little point in forming an alliance



Gordon Brown may feel PR is a 'burning fuse'

with another party at a time when the government has such a substantial majority in the commons.

Steve Richards,
Review, page 3

MPs to launch inquiry into role of Ofsted

BY BEN RUSSELL

Education Correspondent

MPs ARE to launch the first major independent inquiry into the schools inspectorate next month. They announced the inquiry as it emerged that Chris Woodhead, the chief inspector of schools, received a 10 per cent performance bonus this year, worth about £8,000.

The bonus, on top of Mr Woodhead's senior civil service salary of about £80,000 a year, was revealed after MPs on the Commons education select committee questioned Michael Richard, Permanent Secretary at the Department for Education and Employment last month.

Don Foster, Liberal Democrat education spokesman, questioned Mr Richard after publishing research questioning the link between school inspections and rising standards.

The committee, which will work out the inquiry's detailed terms of reference next month, is to seek evidence from some of the inspectorate's most vociferous critics in schools, local authorities and the academic world, as well as taking evidence from school inspectors and senior Ofsted figures.

The inquiry comes as Mr Woodhead moves towards the end of his contract, which expires next year. Ministers have yet to announce whether they intend to offer him another five-year term.

Ofsted has attracted huge controversy through its inspections of schools and teacher training colleges. Mere mention of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools can pro-

voke booing at teacher union conferences.

Critics have questioned whether the inspectorate, which costs the taxpayer £150m a year, offers good value for money. Research published earlier this year by the Liberal Democrats suggested Ofsted inspections made little or no impact on improving exam success. Inspectors are quick to refute criticisms, arguing that publishing inspection reports is central to raising school standards.

A spokeswoman for the National Union of Teachers said the union did not comment on officials' pay, but welcomed the select committee inquiry.

"It's something we have asked for," she said. "The Department should review Ofsted because there are questions about whether their mode of operations are supportive of schools or not. We have always argued that there should be self evaluation of schools, with targets set and Ofsted having reserve powers to inspect."

Ofsted has also angered the academic community through its inspection of teacher training courses, and by its criticism of education research.

A spokesman for Ofsted declined to comment on individual salaries. He said: "The kind of targets Ofsted, and Chris Woodhead, has to meet is the completion of the four year cycle for inspections. Ofsted has met all its targets."

Important Product Notice

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Should you require any further information regarding this please call the Canon Technical Helpline on 0990-143723.

Nurses fear loss of working rights

UP TO 85,000 nurses will be denied key employment rights under government proposals, according to the Royal College of Nursing. The recent "Fairness at Work" White Paper means that the college will be unable to represent fully the vast majority of nurses working for GPs and those at nursing and residential homes. These represent more than a quarter of the RCN's membership.

The moderate RCN, which is non-TUC and politically unaligned, also believes the Government is offering insufficient protection for nurses who are unfairly dismissed.

In a submission to ministers, the college, which operates both as a union and a professional association, points out

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

that it will be unable to gain recognition on behalf of a large number of employees because a proposed law excludes all staff working for organisations with 20 or fewer workers.

In alliance with the TUC the college urges ministers to extend the right of trade-union recognition to all employees, regardless of the size of the organisation for which they work.

The RCN is faced with a growing number of small employers, many of them in the private sector, leading to a reduction in its influence on employee rights and the standard of patient care.

The college calculates that

the great majority of Britain's 18,000 GP-practice nurses, some 51,000 in nursing homes and 16,500 in residential units, are in organisations with 20 or fewer employees. Officials at the RCN believe that staff in 5,400 nursing and residential homes will be denied the right to collective representation.

"The RCN believes that nurses who happen to work for small employers should not be denied the right to be represented by the trade union of their choice."

The document submitted to the Government also argues that ministers should reduce the qualifying period for protection against unfair dismissal to six months. The White Paper proposes cutting the current

period of two years to one year. "The RCN is aware of many instances of employers, in particular nursing-home managers and independent acute hospitals and some instances of GPs, dismissing nurses unfairly just before the qualifying period has been achieved."

The college said that dismissal should be fairly based irrespective of how long the individual had been employed.

While the Government intends to include pay, working time and holidays as part of the statutory collective bargaining agenda, it is consulting on a proposal to include training. The RCN registers its strong belief that statutory recognition should also include bargaining on staff development.

JP 11/15/98

القدس من القدس

Rebel bishop to ordain women priests

BY ALAN MURDOCH
in Dublin

A REBEL Irish bishop who was excommunicated by the Roman Catholic Church last month is now conducting marriages in his own church and preparing to ordain Ireland's first women priests.

Bishop Pat Buckley, who now practises outside the official hierarchy of the church, has renovated a former Protestant Church of Ireland church, St Andrew's, in Ormeau, Co Louth, with the help of a sympathetic local businessman.

He has held eight weddings there since its April re-opening, allowing brides a full church service, and he says Irish bishops are privately advising couples who cannot be married by the Roman Catholic church to contact him.

Bishop Buckley was excommunicated after he was made a bishop by another rebel, the Trinitine bishop Michael Cox.

The Catholic Church declared the appointment "valid but unlawful" because it was made without formal Vatican approval and was therefore a technical breach of canon law.

Bishop Buckley is unrepentant and a further 40 couples have now booked services at his church, 60 per cent of them being divorced people, and most of the rest having mixed Protestant/Catholic marriages.

A priest since 1976, Bishop Buckley began marrying mixed-religion couples in 1986, and now officiates at 180 ceremonies a year, many of them conducted in his cramped Larne oratory in Co Antrim.



The excommunicated bishop Pat Buckley celebrates mass at the official opening of his new church in Co Louth where the divorced can remarry

Tom Conachy

The number of people approaching him may rise as the introduction of civil divorce after a referendum in Ireland in 1995 gradually allows more of the country's 80,000 separated people to remarry. Bishop Buckley predicted: "If the Church doesn't address this issue they're going to lose a lot of people."

"Secretly, a lot of priests and even other bishops are sending couples to me. What they're saying to them is, 'If your conscience draws you to Larnie by all means go'."

The trend started when an Irish couple went to see their bishop after they failed to obtain a first marriage annulment. The issue of ap-

proaching Bishop Buckley arose.

"He [the bishop] smiled and said, 'If that's what your conscience tells you to do then you

must follow your conscience', he claimed.

Bishop Buckley called Catholic marriage annulments "rather shoddy, I think, for any

young man or woman going in before a celibate priest, recounting the whole bedroom scene to try to find a loophole in a marriage.

"I think we should do what the early Church did and accept that some marriages just break down and let people ask for forgiveness and get a second

chance." Although he is not pro-abortion, he also ministers to the 5,000-plus Irish women per year who face excommunication for having abortions.

Bishop Buckley added: "I think they're going to have to let priests marry and include women at every level of Church life."

"I intend to present them with a fait accompli in the next 6 to 12 months by ordaining a woman. That's going to be our contribution to moving the debate on."

He also plans shortly to readmit several priests who left the Church to marry.

He denies his ideas are radical, and agreed with the late Cardinal Tomas O Fiaich, Catholic primate until 1990. Late in life, Cardinal O Fiaich made clear he would welcome women clergy.

"He told me he couldn't say these things in public. He said 'the boys in Rome would have my guts for garters'."

Bishop Buckley has also drawn committed support from many Christians of other denominations, including a friend from an Anglican background who recently gave him a 20-bedroom house to provide shelter for homeless people in Co Antrim.

Out-of-date jabs given to travellers

OFFICIALS FROM the Department of Health yesterday moved to reassure travellers after it emerged that some GPs had been using diphtheria vaccine which was past its recommended use-by date.

The department said it was "extremely unlikely" that anyone would contract the disease after it emerged that 40,000 incorrectly labelled doses of the vaccine were sent to family doctors.

A letter has now been sent to GPs advising them to dump the affected supplies and re-vaccinate patients.

A Department of Health spokeswoman said: "Diphtheria is extremely uncommon, and all children have been vaccinated against it in Britain for many years."

"We have sent out a letter asking for the recall of the affected vaccine."

"This is a precautionary measure on the part of the Department of Health and it is very unlikely anyone will contract diphtheria."

The affected vaccine was sent to GPs in 1995, and was stamped "use by 12 February 1999". The use-by date should have been 12 February 1998. The letter highlighting the mistake was sent out in June.

BY ALEX RICHARDSON

The Department of Health spokeswoman said the blunder happened because the manufacturer of the drug, the Swiss Serum and Vaccine Institute in Berne, recommended that it had a four-year shelf life, while the British health advice was that it should be kept for only three years.

The 1995 vaccine batch was sent out with the Swiss rather than the British use-by date on it, she said.

"Our medical people say if it is kept longer than three years you will have a 'sub-optimal' level of cover but you will still be covered to the level advised by the drug's manufacturers," she said.

Diphtheria is an acute infectious disease of the respiratory tract which is spread through sneezing and coughing.

The disease killed 2,500 people a year in pre-war Britain, but it has been all but eradicated since the introduction of mass childhood inoculation in 1940.

Low-dose diphtheria vaccine is given to travellers as a precaution before visiting certain countries, mostly in Africa and Asia.

VIAGRA CORNER

DESPATCHES FROM THE FRONTIERS OF MEDICINE

CRIMINALS ARE peddling fake Viagra pills via the Internet, a television documentary claims tonight.

The useless tablets are being manufactured in Thailand and India then marketed abroad, according to *World in Action*.

The programme's assistant director, Peter Lowe, said: "Our research indicates that professional counterfeiters have turned their attention to Viagra. They've seen there's a huge market for the drug and there are vast profits to be made."

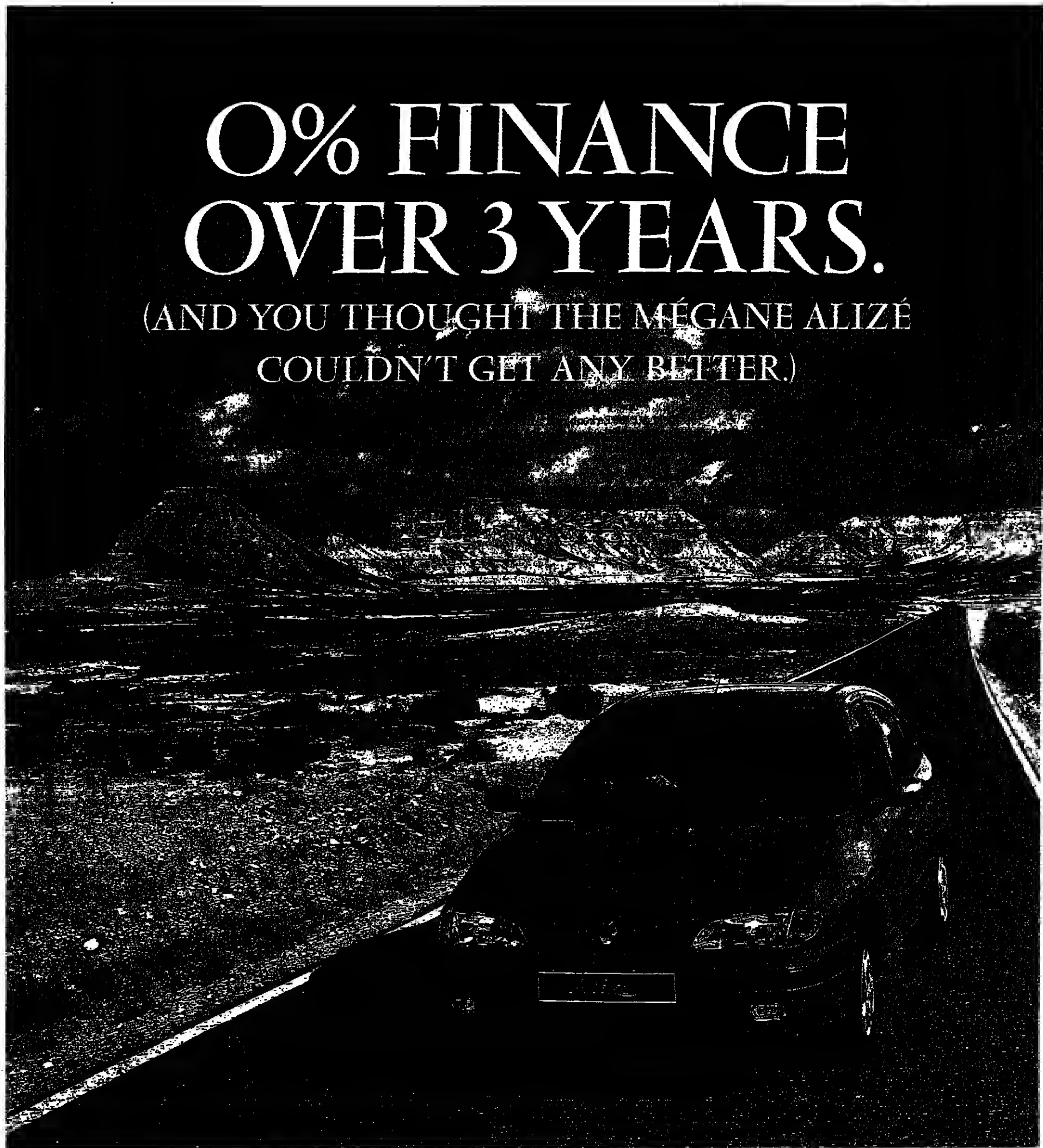
"The counterfeits we've had so far either contain a below-strength active ingredient, or none at all."

The programme also claims that it secretly filmed inside one Harley Street clinic where Viagra was offered to an impotence sufferer for £50 per tablet, 10 times its recommended price.

It alleges that the clinic failed to carry out proper



medical checks before prescribing and that clinics were employing consultants with no medical qualifications. Viagra is not yet licensed in the UK, but is available on a "named prescription" basis from private doctors. In the United States the drug is set to generate £1bn in sales in its first year. A Channel 5 documentary last night visited a US brothel where business has reportedly increased by 20 per cent to 50 per cent since Viagra's launch.



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Dispute in Namibia: Local gemstone miners are evicted from their settlements by a company part-owned by Tony Buckingham, the British buccaneer businessman linked to the firm behind the arms-to-Africa scandal

Hope of treasure turns to dust for miners

LUCKY METIRAPI squints through the dust as another sand storm erupts in the wake of a passing pick-up. The thick clouds descend on his baby son, squatting half-naked in the middle of a settlement, pitiful even by African standards. Holes yawn through patchworks of dirty rag, polythene, and bessian, which only partially cover a long, shambolic line of shacks strung along both sides of the dirt road, south of Karibib, in the wild, semi-desert of central Namibia.

Hundreds are struggling to survive along this isolated roadside with no running water, no electricity and no sanitation, knowing a strong wind is all it would take to displace the stones holding down the shack coverings and flatten their homes.

Lucky 32, the articulate Bob Marley look-alike who leads these people, calls them the Lost Community of Neu Schwaben. He and his neighbours have been squatting on the edge of Neu Schwaben farm since their eviction two months ago by Indigo Sky Gems, a mining company which bought the exclusive prospecting rights on the farm in 1996, and whose principal shareholder is Tony Buckingham.

Mr Buckingham is a publicity shy millionaire businessman, better known in connection with the Sandline and arms to Sierra Leone affair.

BY MARY BRAID
in Neu Schwaben, Namibia

Before Indigo arrived, local "small" miners - indigenous diggers who operate alone or in small groups - had been engaged in an illegal, but unchallenged free-for-all in their search for tourmaline, a semi-precious gem stone. At Neu Schwaben the tourmaline equivalent of a gold rush had sucked in 1,000 diggers. Namibians were joined by miners from across southern Africa, somehow rumours of rich tourmaline deposits had spread as far as Zaire and Mozambique.

The meeting of Third World miners, surviving from day to day, and a foreign commercial firm eager to expand in a country half the size of western Europe and with unexploited mineral wealth, has proved an ugly mix. Attempts by Indigo to bring some order to operations, and stamp their ownership on the mine, has met with fierce opposition.

There have been evictions, court battles and violent confrontations. Later this month, Indigo, the first foreign company to attempt to mine Namibian tourmaline in a systematic way, will again be in court seeking an injunction against the Mayor of Karibib and a local MP who is a government minister, to prevent them coming on site and "inciting" the workers.

This week the miners' committee gathered to discuss their



Tourmaline has become big business in Namibia, depriving these workers at Neu Schwaben, near Karibib, of the right to dig the semi-precious gemstone. Dirk Heinrich

strategy. They sat by the roadside. Lucky, Kones Halkali, 48, Ben Katarabo, 34, all perched on rusting tin cans, and Endelela Hinyelewa, 52, a mother of seven, sitting flat out in the dirt.

As another dust cloud churned up and a drunk miner rolled up to stab a finger at the farm's perimeter fence and shout insults at Indigo's owners, Lucky insisted Indigo, its sister company Camelthorn Mining, and Mr Buckingham were to blame for the squalor. And he accused the Namibian government - the former black liberation force the South West African Peoples Organisation (Swapo), which took power in 1990 - of helping Indigo to move against the workers.

"The company promised the government it would keep us on the mine to win its licence," he says. "But when they got it they came up with an excuse to

evict us. And the government has done nothing to help."

In his calloused hands Lucky clutches shards of blue tourmaline. It is for this that he risks his life every day, gouging the earth, then lowering himself precariously from a rope into holes up to five metres deep.

The "bitch of minerals" is notoriously difficult to mine. Local dealers insist tourmaline cannot be commercially extracted in the Namibian desert and whisper mysteriously that Indigo must have a "hidden agenda".

Miners can toil for three, or even six months without locating a tourmaline pocket; only those with no other options and nothing to lose would scratch on. Asked why they do not move from the roadside to look for other work, Lucky looks incredulous. "Move on where, madam?" he asks. "There is nowhere to go."

None of the miners has met

Mr Buckingham but they all know his name, and amazingly, given their resources and isolation, they have an Internet printout about his links with mercenary companies Executive Outcomes and Sandline International. "Madam, can you get me a picture of Tony Buckingham?" asks Lucky. "So we can know who we are fighting. He has been to Namibia but never come to visit, though I'm sure he knows our situation."

In the leather-chaired lounge of the Kalahari Sands, one of Windhoek's top hotels, Russell Hay, an English businessman and director of Indigo and Camelthorn, shrugs off Namibian newspaper reports that the government is investigating allegations that his companies lied about their connections, through Mr Buckingham, with mercenary outfits.

"The government is welcome to investigate," says Mr

Hay, a long-time Swapo supporter, who says his government connections have led to a host of company directorships. "We have nothing to hide." He also dismisses rumours that Sandline is to provide security at the troubled Neu Schwaben mine.

Mr Hay denies there are links between Indigo, Camelthorn and Sandline and EO, adding that EO has been "a force for good in Africa". For a man who championed the cause of black Namibia against oppressive white South Africa in the 1970s, he has an unimpeachable view of the evicted workers, with whom he says there was never any promise to keep.

"We are perfectly within our rights to kick them off," he says. "And to tell the deputy minister and the Mayor to stay away. Tourmaline was being smuggled out left, right and

centre and we were offered the rubbish."

Indigo had promised to set up a US\$1m (£620,000) cutting and polishing plant in Windhoek to process gems from all over the country. The absence of such a plant in Namibia boosts the illegal flood of gems across its borders. The government was, therefore, delighted by Indigo's promised investment.

Indigo's critics ask what has become of the plant. But Mr Hay says the Neu Schwaben mining dispute - a "PR disaster" - is preventing the company fulfilling its promise. "The long-term objective is to establish Namibia as the centre of the gem industry," says Mr Hay. "But that needs order."

This week there is deadlock. More than 400 miners in the roadside squat have been issued by Indigo with passes to mine. The foreign miners have

gone. But Indigo is not buying from those still digging.

Meanwhile, the government speaks with many voices. Jesaya Nyamu, the Deputy Minister for Mines and Energy, has said the government is investigating allegations that Indigo and Camelthorn provided misleading information about their links with EO and Sandline.

But Hidipo Hamutenya, the Minister for Trade and Industry, has defended the companies, insisting it was unreasonable to expect them to honour their promise of a factory when workers were defying Namibia's mineral and mining laws.

He has said that when Indigo set up in Namibia, Mr Buckingham's "extra Namibian activities" were not a preoccupation. The government was reassured by his association with Ranger Oil in Namibia and his investment in the Soyu oil installation in Angola.

Will Tony Buckingham be the next Tiny Rowland?

TONY BUCKINGHAM is a businessman of the hard school, equally adept at running mercenary operations against insurgents as prising oil and gems out of the ground in the most inhospitable climates.

A week after the death of the great business buccaneer Tiny Rowland, Mr Buckingham is his obvious heir apparent, a flash of rude colour in among the grey corporate suits. Like Mr Rowland two decades before, Mr Buckingham has made a killing by befriending and helping to power emergent Third World leaders. He even has Rowland as a middle name.

As with Mr Rowland, Mr Buckingham's rise to riches has not been without controversy. There was the Sandline arms shipments to Sierra Leone affair, which embarrassed the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook. Then there were Sandline's abortive mercenary operations

BY PAUL LASHMAR
AND ANDREW MULLINS

in Papua New Guinea in 1997 and the small mercenary army he organised in Angola in the mid-1990s.

With a large house in Guernsey which he shares with his wife, Bev, Mr Buckingham is a very wealthy man. He looks the part of the tough oilman, stockily built and with a pugilistic demeanour. Socially he has a reputation as a bon vivant. "You could not get a more engaging lunch companion," said one acquaintance. And like Mr Rowland, Mr Buckingham likes relaxing on his yacht. At weekends he can be seen sipping rum and coke on his boat, *Easy Ours*, on the Solent.

Michael Grunberg, a former partner in the accountants Stoy Hayward, who helps Mr Buckingham run his companies from their office in the King's Road,

west London, said: "I have worked with him for five years and he has been a loyal friend. He is a tough businessman, but he is one of the most amenable people I have ever met."

Charles Jamieson, chief executive of Premier Oil, a major British oil company, who worked with Mr Buckingham in the early 1990, said: "The trouble with Tony is he is a likeable rogue."

Mr Buckingham's roots are somewhat mysterious. Even business partners know little of his past. In company records he gives his nationality as British and date of birth as 28 November 1951. But there is no birth certificate for him in the public records on that date.

He has not denied a special forces background, believed to be in 22 SAS - the territorial regiment. His business partner, Simoo Mann, is also a former SAS officer.



Tony Buckingham yachting off Cowes, Isle of Wight

As the archetypal frontiersman, Mr Buckingham got his first break in the great business frontier of the 1970s - the North Sea - as a diver. The small band of professional divers working on the offshore platforms could make good money. "It was here that he got his great love of the oil business," said a colleague.

In the 1980s, Mr Buckingham moved into the business side of oil and spent much of his time abroad doing deals. Premier's Charles Jamieson said: "At one stage he worked with Bunker Hunt Oil in Pakistan and the Canadian Nova Corp in Africa."

In 1987, Mr Buckingham appears as a director of a com-

pany called Sabre Petroleum Ltd. On the board were the wealthy Jivraj brothers, who listed UAE Investment Ltd among their directorships at the time. His big business breakthrough seems to have come with his close friendship with Jack Pierce, the head of Ranger Oil, a well-known Canadian company in the North Sea business. In 1990, Mr Buckingham suggested that Ranger take a slice of the Angola offshore oil field. Mr Buckingham made the introduction to the Angolan government.

Ranger's executive, John Faulds (Mr Pierce died six years ago) said: "Tony was one of [the] business associates and this was Tony's original concept. Ranger wanted to diversify and this was the ideal project." The company got the concession in 1991 and it has produced a steady flow of oil since. Mr Buckingham's Bahamas-registered

company Heritage Oil and Gas took a share in the profits.

When the rebel forces of Unita captured the vital oil town of Soya in 1993, Mr Buckingham suggested to the Angolan government that it should hire mercenaries. He introduced officials to his friend Ebben Barlow, a former South African special forces officer and head of Executive Outcomes, whose hired hands recaptured the town. Although Mr Buckingham remains a director of Ranger (West Africa) Ltd, according to Mr Faulds "He is no longer a working partner - he sold out."

By the early 1990s Buckingham was moving in influential circles. He became a close friend of Andrew Gifford, a founder of the lobby firm GJW Government Relations, that was at the centre of the recent Labour Party lobbyist controversy. Mr Buckingham describes him as "a

close friend who I have been shooting with." Mr Gifford was Lord (David) Steel's former adviser and at his behest, Lord Steel joined the board of Heritage Oil and Gas. He resigned just before the Papua New Guinea scandal broke.

It is the mineral business that has been most lucrative for Mr Buckingham. He is a director of a publicly quoted Canadian mining company, DiamondWorks. DiamondWorks has projects in Africa and elsewhere. Mr Buckingham runs Branch Energy Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary. It holds diamond concessions in Angola and Sierra Leone.

Branch Energy owns a number of companies, including Indigo Sky Gems, in Namibia. This company and its subsidiary, Camelthorn Mining Ltd, have the concession to prospect for tourmaline at the Neu Schwaben mine in Namibia.

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Iraq fears Butler will keep sanctions

IN WHAT may be the first step towards a renewed confrontation between Iraq and the UN, Richard Butler, head of the UN Special Committee monitoring the elimination of Iraqi chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, returned to Baghdad yesterday for meetings with Iraqi leaders.

Only if Mr Butler, former Australian ambassador to the UN, certifies that Iraq no longer has such weapons, or the means to deliver them, will the UN lift sanctions. These have crippled the Iraqi infrastructure since they were imposed eight years ago. A study by Unicef last year showed that 31 per cent of infants in Iraq suffer from malnutrition today compared to none in 1990.

Iraqis are not optimistic that Mr Butler, who is to have three days of meetings with Tariq Aziz, the deputy prime minister, is anywhere near certifying that Iraq has no more weapons of mass destruction. He produces his next six-monthly report on Iraqi compliance in October, the moment when a new crisis is likely to explode.

Mr Butler's visit - termed "decisive" by Iraq - has been preceded by skirmishes between weapons monitors and Iraq.

Last month Iraq refused to give the investigators a document itemising the shells and bombs used in its war with Iran in 1980-88. This may be to check if Iraq used nerve gas as well as Sarin and Tabu.

There is no doubt that Iraqi leaders are frustrated but they have limited options. President Saddam Hussein portrayed the last confrontation with the UN in February as a victory. It ended with him signing an agreement with Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary General, permitting his palaces to be searched. The UN backed away from renewing the Gulf war. It was also dismayed to find it was largely isolated in the Arab world, even Saudi Arabia refusing to allow its territory to be used for attacks on Iraq.

The Iraqi diplomatic successes in February have produced few dividends. Everything apart from imported food and medicine has to go through the UN sanctions and contracts committees in New York. The committees exercise tight control of the Iraqi economy.

The UN oil-for-food plan, under which Iraq can export

By PATRICK COCKBURN
in Baghdad

some oil to pay for essential supplies, has had limited impact. This is because Iraqi power stations, water and sewage plants have not been repaired for eight years.

In Baghdad there are three to six hours of power cuts a day. In the countryside the electricity goes off for 20 hours and sometimes all day. This means pressure is not maintained in the water pipes which become contaminated by sewage. In many areas where there is no piped water the intense heat of the Mesopotamian summer leads people to drink straight from the heavily polluted rivers. The subsequent gastro-enteritis is often fatal for small children.

Iraqis believe their govern-



Richard Butler in Baghdad yesterday

ment probably does have some weapons of mass destruction but do not think this is why the US and Britain want to maintain sanctions. "India and Pakistan explode nuclear weapons and nothing happens to them," said one middle class Iraqi, who did not want to give his name. "How can we prove we don't have some of these weapons?"

Ordinary Iraqis express bitterness that they and not the Iraqi government, are being punished.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali, then UN Secretary General, said in 1995 that the international community had failed to confront "the ethical question of whether suffering inflicted on vulnerable groups in the target country is a legitimate means of exerting pressure on political leaders, whose behaviour is unlikely to be affected by the plight of their subjects".

Ohio celebrates 'worst President'

By ANDREW GUMBEL
in Toledo, Ohio

WHAT GOOD can one possibly say about a man regularly voted the worst president in United States history? Warren Harding is generally remembered for corruption scandals, adultery and a sudden death just two-and-a-half years into his administration, but that has not stopped some historians, particularly in his native Ohio, attempting to salvage his reputation on the 75th anniversary of his passing.

The trouble is, they have found it awfully difficult to say anything nice.

"He was not a bad person," was the best that William M Thompson, a public administration professor writing in the Toledo Blade, could come up with. "He could see that he was limited in talent, something that the 'strong' and 'great' presidents seldom see when they contemplate themselves. Therefore he relied upon others - giants like Charles Evans Hughes, Herbert Hoover and William Howard Taft."

If this is a hardly a ringing endorsement, one can at least detect a note of sympathy for a man who was blamed for everything from the Teapot Dome land scandal in Wyoming to his wife Florence's penchant for entertaining movie stars and astrologers in the White House. David Nasaw, a New York history professor writing a review

Harding: widely blamed, but 'not a bad person'

of the first biography of Florence Harding in yesterday's New York Times, suggested that it was unfair to drag Harding the man into the mud just because of his presidential record.

Some of the mud will sound strangely familiar to modern ears: a president so afraid of his wife finding out about his adulterous affairs that he once entertained a mistress in a White House coat cupboard and conspired with his advisers to cover up his shenanigans by paying out hush-money to key Washington journalists; a man who appointed untrustworthy cronies to high office and then saw them rattle him in scandal as they raked in the kick-backs - and a man who appointed a staff for his dog that received and answered mail on the pooch's behalf.



A woman gives a child oxygen at a Baghdad hospital yesterday. Children are suffering most from sanctions

Saddam's enemies may get London HQ courtesy of the US

LONDON could become the base for a US-funded centre for Iraqi opposition activities as part of a comprehensive plan to undermine the regime of Saddam Hussein, according to a report in the Washington Post.

The opposition centre is one element of a 27-point plan drawn up by the Clinton Administration to bring down the leadership in Baghdad.

The plan entails the injection of new resources into the country's faltering opposition and moves towards the indictment of President Saddam Hussein and his regime for war crimes. A sum of \$5m, already agreed by Congress, has apparently been earmarked for training opposition groups in organisation and recruitment, as well as funding the London centre.

A further \$5m has been agreed for an anti-Saddam radio station, 'Radio Free Iraq', to be run by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty from its Prague headquarters. Several publications have carried ad-

By MARY DEJEVSKY
in Washington

vertisements for the post of 'director, Iraq broadcast service'.

While signs of a shift in US policy towards Iraq have emerged piecemeal in recent weeks, details of the plan reveal a major change from applying overt pressure through international bodies like the UN and its arms inspection body, Unscm, to covert action. A recent unconfirmed report said that President Clinton had given the CIA the green light to mount secret operations for Saddam's removal.

Two leaders of rival Kurdish factions in northern Iraq, Massoud Barzani of the Kurdish Democratic party and Jalal Talabani of the Popular Union of Kurdistan, have been invited to visit Washington later in the year. The invitations mark an effort by the administration to mend fences with the Kurdish opposition to Saddam after effectively cutting them off when a Kurdish uprising in northern Iraq failed.

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Mongolia reels from 'shock therapy'

By TERESA POOLE
in Moron

IN THE town called Moron, the locals live off their wits. Pitching their traditional "ger" tent on the nearby steppes of northern Mongolia, Dushumbeel and his wife, Tsetsgee, are survivors of perhaps the most extreme economic shock therapy in the world. Both lost their state-salaried jobs when 70 years of Mongolian Communism collapsed in 1990 and their village co-operative was dissolved. So, like thousands of other Mongolians, this couple and their five children retreated to a nomadic way of life out on the grasslands, where winter temperatures drop to minus 35C.

"Compared to the socialist time, life is worse," said Tsetsgee, 42, a former shop assistant. "We don't have any jobs, and must depend on livestock."

With 130 animals, mostly sheep, goats and horses, the couple eke out a subsistence living, moving about five times a year. A sheep is occasionally bartered for flour and salt from travelling traders and, with luck, they can sell animal skins in Moron, 30 miles away. But despite their harsh experience of the market economy, both voted for the Democratic Coalition, winner of the 1996 election, a poll which saw a 91 per cent turnout. "We thought democracy was an important factor to develop Mongolia," said Dushumbeel, aged 49, a former driver.

No Communist regime has experienced a more abrupt shift to a capitalist democracy than Mongolia. For seven decades, this vast land between Russia and China was a Soviet satellite state, closed to outsiders. In 1990, street protests in the capital Ulan Bator prompted a swift and bloodless transition to democracy, quickly followed by severe financial trauma as Moscow cut subsidies amounting to 30 per cent of Mongolia's gross domestic product (GDP).

Since then, the country's extreme climate and remoteness have been matched by the radical policies of its elected leaders. Mongolia, nearly 12 times the size of England, has 31 million head of livestock, 2.4



Jobless Mongolians queue in the rain outside a bank in Moron in the hope of collecting July's child allowance. They had queued in vain the previous month

AFP

million people, and a most uncompromising free-market government. The animals are doing fine, but many of the people are wondering whether the unadorned theories of Milton Friedman are really the answer. Before 1990, even the sheep were state-owned. Now, over a bowl of fermented mare's milk in his ger, Dushumbeel explains how he recently sold his shares in a knitting factory quoted on the stock exchange in distant Ulan Bator. Like everyone, he was given vouchers in 1992 that could be swapped for shares under the government's scheme to privatise everything - not just the animals, but all Mongolia's state-owned industry, factories,

small businesses, and shops.

The process, in practice, was riddled with corruption, but has produced a band of unlikely shareholders. The problem is that too many of these pilot capitalists do not have enough to eat. "We have just sold the shares, cheaply, for about 10,000 Tugriks (£7.50)," said Dushumbeel (who, like most Mongolians, uses only one name). And how have they used the money? "We bought food and flour."

A world away, sitting in his Ulan Bator office dressed in a sharp blue suit, is one of the architects of this economic adventure. Zoljargal, the 33-year-old senior economic adviser to the acting prime minister, Elbegdorj, is a com-

mitted disciple of the free market, and while still in his twenties was the head of the new stock exchange.

"Of course there is Milton Friedman. That's who gives the inspiration about the whole thing, and what should be the goal behind those changes," he said. "I think it's very important if you want to liberalise, that you just throw away all the regulations."

Thus Mongolia has undergone eight years of economic "shock therapy", aided by a golden horde of Westerners - many American - keen to get involved, from right-wing economists to missionaries. The International Monetary Fund sets the strict monetary targets,

and the World Bank, the Asia Foundation, USAID, the Soros Foundation, visiting Harvard economists, and the International Republican Institute all rejoice in a former communist country which welcomes foreign experts. The IRI, in the run-up to the 1996 election, even helped the Democratic Coalition draw up a "Contract with Mongolia", modelled on Newt Gingrich's US blueprint.

So how does it feel to be on the receiving end of this experiment? Out on the grasslands around Moron, about 500 miles north-west of Ulan Bator, conditions are harsh. Dushumbeel's family is a typical example of how old securities have been demolished. After

the July 1990 election, won by the former Communists, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party scrapped the co-operatives. Out went free health, education and welfare services to rural dwellers.

Nearly 15 per cent of children dropped out of school, and infant and maternal mortality rates rose. Dushumbeel reflects: "In the old days, even if you just had a cold, you could go to the doctor for free. Now we just try to stay healthy."

In provincial centres like Moron (which means big river), the situation was dire. Without Soviet support, the country's GDP contracted for three years in a row, inflation peaked at 320 per cent in 1992, and food ra-

tioning was introduced. Between 1992 and 1996, under a re-elected MPRP government, Mongolia's industrial production plummeted: flour, butter and cereal output halved, woolen fabric fell by 94 per cent, shoes by 96 per cent, and even sausages by 80 per cent. According to the World Bank, one-third of Mongolians were living below the poverty line.

A surprise general election triumph in mid-1996 by the Democratic Coalition led to another bout of "shock therapy". Energy and flour prices soared, import duties were virtually abolished, housing privatised, and a new target set to sell 60 per cent of state assets by 2000. Elbegdorj, who was Democ-

cratic Coalition prime minister until he lost a vote of confidence a week ago, said: "Popularity is not our aim. There is no reform without hardships. If there are no hardships, and no resistance, it is not reform."

Moron, a bleak town of 25,000, is still waiting for the turn. Dirt roads are lined by silted fences sheltering wooden dwellings and "gers". Few vehicles pass down the streets, as children carry buckets to collect water from standpipes. The power station is in trouble because people cannot afford to pay their bills, so homes only have electricity six hours a day.

Outside a bank, a long queue of Moron residents waits in the rain in the hope of collecting July's child allowance. They queued in June, but there was no money. Not one person in line has a job anymore.

Tulga, a 27-year-old man, lost his job in the flour factory two years ago. "People are quite angry. Most people who are capable of work in Moron are unemployed, maybe 90 per cent." Passing by Ganaa, a 35-year-old Moron teacher, said: "The problem with the government is the lack of social policy."

Nationally, at least one-fifth of the labour force is out of work. Enkhbaatar, the prime minister from 1996-98, was involved in crafting both "shock therapies" and said: "I think Mongolia simply did not have any other choice following the stopping of Russian aid." Looking at the big picture, there are some positive signs. In June, inflation fell below 10 per cent while 1997 economic growth reached 3.3 per cent. It is Mongolia's misfortune that the Asian economic crisis has this year hit the prices of all Mongolia's main exports - copper, gold and cashmere - knocking the government's budget way off course again.

In Ulan Bator, home to one-third of the population, some ordinary people are at last finding a foothold in the new economic order. Imported cars, more goods in the shops, and many new nightclubs and bars confirm there is new money - often from trading goods with China and Russia. Private businesses are being established.

Peking's rich friend guilty but unbowed

HONG KONG'S most brazen legislator, who describes himself as a "madman", has been found guilty of a conspiracy to forge, a charge which carries a maximum 14-year jail sentence. However, Chim Pui-chung, the guilty legislator, sees no reason why he should resign from office as a law maker.

The charge arises from a multi-million pound scandal involving public companies controlled by Mr Chim. Now serving his third term as a legislator, multi-millionaire Mr Chim has presented himself as the voice of ordinary people. Revelling in a lack of sophistication and employing a style of presentation more suited to street markets than the legislative chamber, he has managed to keep himself in the news.

Mr Chim was described as "pig-headed, reckless and irresponsible", and that was by his own counsel, the former Attorney General John Griffiths. However, the prosecution favoured a description of Mr Chim as "greedy, dishonest and corrupt".

After one of the most costly trials in Hong Kong history, lasting 131 days, the jury took one and a half days to bring in the guilty verdict last Saturday - but also cleared Mr Chim of five other conspiracy charges relating to the defrauding of minority shareholders in a public company interestingly named Lucky Man.

Throughout the trial Mr Chim claimed he was the victim of persecution by the former colonial authorities because he had declined to

By STEPHEN VINES
in Hong Kong

support the democratic reforms introduced by the last governor, Chris Patten. However, Mr Chim, a firm supporter of Peking, produced no evidence to support these claims.

In his business and political careers Mr Chim has courted controversy with relish. He was the main stockbroker for George Tan, the most notorious corporate swindler in Hong Kong's history. Mr Tan's business collapse very nearly dragged Mr Chim under and he left for Canada to recover his fortunes. Shortly after his return he developed a taste for politics and stood for one of Hong Kong's notorious rotten borough seats, with a tiny electorate representing fellow stock brokers and, at the time, insurance companies. When it became clear that the insurance people had not voted for him, Mr Chim said he would not bother to represent their interests.

Once in the legislative chamber he quickly acquired a reputation for ranting and raving. At one point he launched a racist attack on one of the council's few non-Chinese members. He also made new enemies after telling a television interviewer that "all women are whores".

In the middle of his trial he stood again for the legislature. This time his rotten borough constituency had been made even smaller and he secured a seat with just 125 votes.

Clearly relishing his role as

a legislator he made a point of attending a meeting with Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive, before returning to court on Saturday to hear the jury's verdict.

When the jury retired Mr Chim broke all legal conventions by calling a press conference to affirm his determination to remain in the Legislative Council and, again, protest his innocence.

Fellow legislators seem less keen on seeing Mr Chim retain his seat, although Hong Kong's new mini-constitution, the Basic Law, requires two-thirds of the council to vote for his expulsion. Margaret Ng, the legislator representing the legal profession, said that if Mr Chim kept his seat it would damage the reputation of the council. In 1995, another legislator for one of the rotten borough seats was expelled after being given a jail sentence for vote buying.

Mr Chim is a very wealthy man. When he was first elected to the legislature he boasted that he owned properties in Hong Kong worth HK\$600-700 million, alongside some HK\$300 million invested in Chinese properties, a total of some £76 million.

Never shy of flaunting his wealth, he always came to court in a chauffeur-driven, gold Rolls Royce, although his last departure was made in a rather more humble prison van, taking him to jail before sentencing today.

Defiant to the end, he spoke to reporters from the dock before being led away. He said he would appeal but conceded that he had to "face reality".



As opposition demands grow Mugabe is resorting to greater repression Chris Watt

Mugabe invites unrest with ban on strikes

By CRIS CHINAKA
in Harare

ZIMBABWEAN HUMAN rights leaders responded yesterday with dismay to President Robert Mugabe's new rules banning strikes and restricting political and public gatherings, accusing him of introducing a state of emergency by stealth.

"It's horrifying. This amounts to an unjustified declaration of a state of emergency and sets us back as a country," said Mike Auret, chairman of rights watchdog Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace.

Mugabe's embattled government on Friday published tight rules requiring organisers to notify officials or seek police permission at least seven days before calling any gathering or march, limiting the number of speakers at those events to three and giving the state the right to record the speeches.

He also declared finance, commerce and industry essential services, making it a

criminal offence for anyone to incite a strike in these sectors. Communications, energy, health, food, water supply, sewage services, fire-fighting and transport are already listed as essential.

Mr Mugabe's declaration came as the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) threatened to call a five-day stoppage to press demands for tax cuts, and the order effectively removes workers' right to strike. It was his biggest blow to a group he accuses of wanting to topple him through unrest, a charge labour organisers deny.

But political analysts say although Mugabe means to tighten his grip on the state he has ruled for the last 18 years, his move might spark further opposition. Over the past year various sectors have used strikes

and protests to assert their rights and demands.

"I think these restrictions and rules will be resisted. He (Mugabe) may end up with more trouble than he is trying to get rid of," said Lupi Mushayakarara, a political commentator and chairman of the political rights Institute for the Advancement of Freedom.

"The lesson from the last couple of months is that people have become very assertive. They are fighting and defending their rights," she said.

A top ZCTU official said the organisation was preparing a comprehensive reply to Mugabe's action, but added: "Our real response would be re-sounding." Constitutional lawyer Professor Welshman Ncube, of the University of Zimbabwe in Harare, said Mugabe's declaration was illegal, unless invoked alongside a general state of emergency.

IN BRIEF

Indian civilians die in shelling

FIVE INDIAN civilians were killed in Pakistani shelling yesterday as the rival armies resumed the four-day-old artillery exchange along their disputed border in Kashmir. Three people, including two women, were killed in the Uri region of the Jammu-Kashmir frontier, and two men were killed near Baramulla town, the United News of India said. The shelling had stopped yesterday morning in several border positions but resumed in the evening, a spokesman said, adding that the Indian toll in four days of fierce fighting had risen to 34. Pakistan had on Saturday accused Indian troops of unleashing mortars in the disputed territory of Kashmir in a three-day face-off that killed a reported 85 Pakistanis.

Serbs burn Albanian homes

GOVERNMENT FORCES shelled and burned Albanian homes yesterday in what appeared to be a campaign to drive ethnic Albanian civilians from part of Kosovo which had been under rebel control. In neighbouring Albania, the state-run ATA news agency said eight Albanians had been killed by Serb shelling of villages in the Drenica area west of the provincial capital Pristina. The figures could not be verified. Serb sources confirmed the fighting but blamed the Kosovo Liberation Army for starting it.

King Fahd in hospital

KING FAHD of Saudi Arabia was admitted to hospital to undergo medical tests, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. The agency gave no further details but diplomats in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, said the king suffered an undisclosed illness.

Russian police hunt armed gang

POLICE AND troops, hampered by fog and rain, were hunting three armed fugitives in one of the remotest areas of the Arctic coast of Russia yesterday, two days after the gang, who had broken out of prison, exchanged fire with their pursuers. Police told Russian media that two soldiers and a civilian were trapped in an area near Cape Schmidt, facing Alaska, nine times zones east of Moscow. Two other escapees were killed and six recaptured on Friday and only the poor weather was allowing the three to evade detection.

Mandela celebrates with Zulus

IN A SCENE unimaginable four years ago, President Nelson Mandela has helped King Goodwill Zwelithini, ceremonial leader of the rival Zulu people, celebrate his 50th birthday in Durban. Mr Mandela's African National Congress and the Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party have waged a bitter power struggle that has claimed more than 11,000 lives since the 1980s in KwaZulu-Natal province.

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Villagers demand protection as Hutu rebels slaughter 110

HUTU REBELS armed with machetes and clubs hacked to death as many as 110 people in attacks north-west of the Rwandan capital, an army commander said yesterday.

Colonel Fred Ibiringa said soldiers had counted 110 bodies of those killed in attacks late on Friday at Buheta and Raba-communes, about 50 kilometres

(30 miles) north-west of the capital, Kigali. The attacks were not reported until yesterday.

Col Ibiringa said the attackers, who included residents from the area, had burned down a local official's house. It wasn't clear whether the official had been killed.

Ibiringa, the military commander responsible for Kigali

and Kigali Rural prefectures, spoke to reporters at a festival in the countryside outside Kigali, marking the beginning of the harvest season. He said he had no other details.

Wallis Gasamagera, the top official in Kigali Rural prefecture, said local Hutus had asked for guns to defend themselves against Hutu rebel attacks.

Mr Gasamagera said people had recognised some of the attackers and had captured one. Soldiers in the area were searching for the rebels, who had probably escaped towards the heavily forested northwest corner of the country, he said.

The attack was the worst since the rebels - former Hutu soldiers - killed and burned 34 people last month at a roadside inn on the main road from Kigali to the northwest.

The rebels rely on Rwanda's majority Hutu population for food, shelter and money. But Hutus have increasingly complained of rebel harassment and intimidation and have often sought army protection.

The attackers are among those responsible for the 1994 genocide of more than 500,000 minority Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus. The killing ended when Tutsi-led rebels won power in July 1994. Rebel attacks have been on the increase since November 1996, when Hutu fighters mingled with more than 1 million refugees returning from exile.

Handwritten note: "Jp 11/15/98"

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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Japan growth forecast unrealistic

THE CURRENT Japanese economic growth forecast of 1.9 per cent in fiscal 1998-99 is unrealistic and will have to be revised downwards according to Taichi Sakaiya, the newly appointed head of the Economic Planning Agency. "I want to revise the estimate, but because it is a politically sensitive issue I am concerned about the timing," he said on Japanese TV.

The new government is also planning to freeze a law that limits its options for deficit financing to 3 per cent of GDP by 2006. The freeze could be introduced at the start of the next session of parliament in January.

News Analysis, page 15

Arriva denies sale preparations



ARRIVA, the bus and motor company, yesterday dismissed suggestions that hinders were preparing a strike for the group. "The board of Arriva is fully committed to developing the bus and motor divisions, which are strong and profitable and neither of which are for sale," a spokesman said. The company, whose chief executive Gordon Hodgson

resigned last week, said it had received no expression of interest from former chairman Tom Cowie, contrary to some weekend press reports.

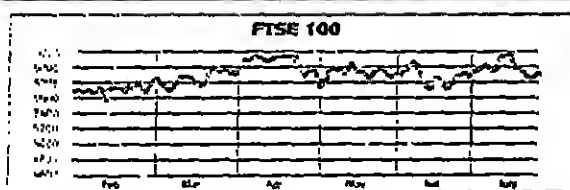
Arriva, which reported flat half-year profits last week, has received more than 10 expressions of interest in its car finance, which it is selling to concentrate on the bus and motor operations.

UK output hit by skill shortages

SKILL SHORTAGES have hit output in nearly half of British companies over the last year, according to a new annual enquiry conducted by the Confederation of British Industry.

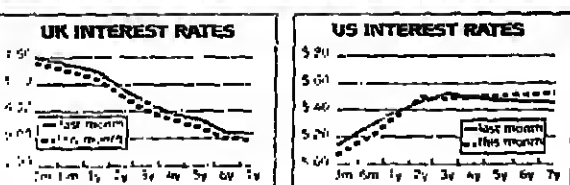
While the CBI's employment trends survey shows a decisive shift in the attitude of employees towards flexibility and companies towards the need for training, both service and manufacturing sectors reported a debilitating lack of qualified staff.

STOCK MARKETS



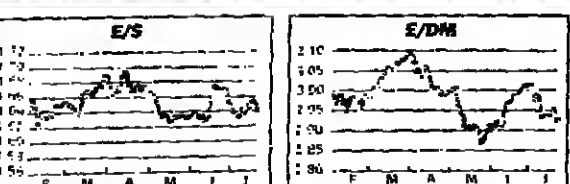
Index	Close	Wk's ch	Wk's ch (%)	52 wk high	52 wk low	Vol
FTSE 100	5937.00	-53.30	-0.94	6183.7	4302.8	3,661
FTSE 250	5462.70	-37.90	-0.69	5970.9	4428.3	3,702
FTSE 350	2811.80	-25.30	-0.89	2969.1	2141.8	3,668
FTSE All Share	2734.72	-26.70	-0.95	2886.52	2106.59	3,651
FTSE SmallCap	2472.50	-47.50	-1.89	2793.8	2183.9	3,369
FTSE Europe	1376.60	-33.40	-2.39	1517.1	1235.2	3,902
FTSE AIM	1063.00	-26.20	-2.43	1146.9	965.9	1,252
FTSE EURO100	1066.61					
Dow Jones	8893.29	-54.07	-0.61	9367.84	6971.37	1,65
Nikkei	16378.97	-17.08	-0.10	20399.14	14488.21	0,937
Hang Seng	7326.20	-331.26	-4.39	10620.31	7351.68	5,142
Dax	5973.67	-161.36	-2.67	6212.85	4487.24	2,739

INTEREST RATES



Index	3 months	6 months	1 year	2 year	5 year	10 year	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	7.76	6.64	7.31	0.31	5.77	4.19	5.40	-1.45
US	5.69	5.02	5.82	-0.11	5.49	5.52	5.71	-0.58
Japan	0.65	0.64	0.67	-0.06	1.55	-0.81	2.10	-0.78
Germany	3.57	3.34	3.80	0.35	4.63	-0.91	5.26	-0.95

CURRENCIES



Index	Friday	Wk's ch	Yr chg
Dollar	1.6335	-2.57c	1.6400
D-Mark	2.9077	-4.38pf	3.0211
Yen	239.24	+1.20	194.63
£/DM	104.20	-1.30	104.60

OTHER INDICATORS

Index	Close	Wk's ch	Yr chg
Brent Oil (\$)	12.55	0.23	19.12
Gold (\$)	286.65	-5.00	324.55
Silver (\$)	5.53	-0.15	4.38

www.bloomberg.com/uk SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

TOURIST RATES

Index	Close	Wk's ch	Yr chg
Australia (\$)	2.5914		
Austria (schillings)	19.76		
Belgium (francs)	58.07		
Canada (\$)	2.3634		
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8241		
Denmark (krone)	10.78		
Finland (markka)	8.5462		
France (francs)	9.4291		
Germany (marks)	2.8220		
Greece (drachma)	468.84		
Hong Kong (\$)	12.22		
Ireland (pounds)	1.1160		
India (rupees)	63.89		
Israel (shekels)	5.5039		
Italy (lira)	2.788		
Japan (yen)	230.35		
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.4980		
Malta (lira)	0.6145		
Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.26		
Netherlands (guilders)	3.1695		
New Zealand (\$)	3.0703		
Norway (krone)	12.00		
Portugal (escudos)	286.57		
Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9571		
Singapore (\$)	2.6972		
Spain (pesetas)	238.64		
South Africa (rand)	9.6593		
Sweden (krone)	12.62		
Switzerland (francs)	2.3702		
Thailand (bahts)	61.37		
Turkey (liras)	4225500		
USA (\$)	1.5887		

Notes: For indication purposes only

Source: Thomas Cook

PowerGen in talks with potential US partners

POWERGEN, the smaller of the UK's two specialist electricity generators, is continuing talks with a number of potential US partners in its attempts to enter the US utilities market as speculation mounted over the weekend that its £100m deal with Houston Industries had foundered.

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

with Houston Industries had collapsed in the face of concern about the conditions which would be imposed on the PowerGen business in the UK. No announcements are expected at least until the regulatory issues on both sides of the Atlantic are clearer, City sources said. PowerGen is considering the

pace of deregulation in the US and the effects it will create for companies to establish cross-holdings of electricity and water businesses in the US and at state level. Deregulation is necessary to create the necessary opportunities for cost-saving and joint marketing but the pace is necessarily slow. PowerGen is thought to be willing to take the plunge before all

the issues have been decided but is not yet ready to move. On the other hand, Houston is known to be concerned at the conditions the electricity regulator, Professor Littlechild, will put on PowerGen as the price of approving PowerGen's takeover of East Midlands Electricity, which was completed last month. PowerGen is expected to sell off at least

one, maybe two, of its four coal-fired power stations to win a favourable recommendation from the regulator, but the appointment of Peter Mandelson as the new boss at the DTI could pose a further obstacle. The regulator is expected to make a recommendation to the DTI next month and Mr Mandelson in turn to make a decision by the end of September.

Meanwhile, PowerGen has appointed Goldman Sachs to handle negotiations with a number of potential buyers for one or more of its coal-fired stations. Buyers include British Energy, the specialised atomic energy generator, as well as Florida Power & Light, Scottish Power, Scottish Hydro and several UK distribution companies.

Victoria Wine and Thresher to merge

THE POWER of the major supermarkets was again in evidence yesterday when Victoria Wine and Thresher said they are planning to merge their high street off licence chains in an attempt to fight back against supermarket giants and the cross channel booze run.

BY NIGEL COPE
Associate City Editor

The move, undertaken by Allied Domecq, which owns Victoria Wine and Thresher, is likely to provide an early regulatory test for Peter Mandelson, who took over as the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry last week.

News of the proposed Thresher-Victoria Wine tie-up comes just days after the supermarkets were themselves put under the monopolies microscope when the Office of Fair Trading launched a wide-ranging investigation into the major grocers to establish if they have been using their dominance of the food and drinks market to the detriment of consumers.

The merger, a 50-50 joint venture, would create a high street giant with 3,000 branches controlling more than 30 per cent of the high street off licence business. However, its combined

share of the take-home drinks market would be much lower as the traditional off licences have been gradually losing trade to the supermarkets, which are able to buy at lower costs and sell at lower prices.

Whitbread and Allied Domecq said their combined share of the whole market would only be around 14 per cent. However, there may be a problem with local monopolies given the scale of the two operations. The pair are already the top two in the specialist sector: Threshers owns a host of names such as Wine Rack, Bottoms Up and Drinks Cabin while Victoria Wine trades under formats such as Cellars and Martha's Vineyard.

The companies admitted that there would be job losses and store closures as they seek to reduce duplication and cut costs. However they declined to comment on suggestions that there could be up to 100 closures, which would result in several hundred redundancies. They said both the main trading names would be retained. Industry experts said the



Thresher aims to fend off supermarket competition by merging with Victoria Wine

Keith Dobney

How the off-licence giants compare

Trading formats:	VICTORIA WINE	THRESHER
	Victoria Wine	Thresher
	Victoria Wine Cellars	Wine Rack
	Haddon	Bottoms Up
	Martha's Vineyard	Drinks Cabin
	Firkoff off licences	
Store numbers:	1,500	1,500
Owner:	Allied Domecq	Whitbread
Profits:	£15m	£22.8m

merger was not a surprise but would not necessarily lead to a stronger entity. "They would argue that this is the only way that they can compete against the supermarkets that are squeezing them ferociously but I'm not sure what it will achieve," said Clive Vaughan of Verdict, the retail consultants. "These are essentially convenience stores but with only one product. They need a new trading idea but the commitment just doesn't seem to be there."

He pointed to Parisa, the former Greenalls off licence, as an example of what could be achieved. It is being remodelled under a convenience store format with a broader range of products and services.

Mr Vaughan said specialist chains such as Oddbins, which aims at wine buffs, and Majestic Wine Warehouse, which operates a large store format, should not be seriously affected. However, independent op-

erators such as Unwins could be squeezed. Specialist off licences have been experiencing a rapid decline in the UK. They accounted for 40 per cent of take-home drink sales in 1990, but that

share has slipped to less than 30 per cent now. The major supermarkets, which overtook the market share of the specialists eight years ago, now control two thirds of the market. Tesco, Sainsbury and Sainsbury are now Britain's major drinks retailers followed by Threshers in fourth and Victoria Wine in fifth. Threshers was founded by Samuel Thresher in 1897. It was acquired by Flowers Breweries in the 1950s and has been part of Whitbread since 1962. It recorded profits of £22.8m or sales of £632m last year. Victoria Wine was formed in 1865. It added 550 branches in 1993 when it bought the Augustus Barnett chain

The Economy: CBI finds sharp decline in business confidence ahead of Bank meeting

MPC interest rate vote to weigh pound and pay MPC "out of touch", says union leader

THE BANK of England's Monetary Policy Committee is set to keep interest rates on hold this week, according to City economists, although the weaker pound and worrying trends in earnings growth mean the decision is likely to be finely balanced.

New evidence of faltering manufacturing confidence released today by the Confederation of British Industry will increase the pressure on the MPC to hold fire on rates.

The CBI/Pannell Kerr Forster quarterly survey of SMEs - small and medium-sized enterprises - found that manufacturing SMEs were cutting jobs because of sharply falling orders, output and business confidence.

Over the last four months, SMEs reported the largest fall in orders since October 1991, according to the CBI. Business optimism fell at the fastest rate since January 1991.

BY LEA PATERSON

Last week, evidence of sharp declines in confidence throughout the manufacturing sector prompted the CBI to call for a rate cut for the first time in almost three years. Andrew Buxton, chairman of the CBI's economic affairs committee, said: "The risk of a sharper slowdown outweighs the risks of higher inflation."

At its latest meeting, the shadow Monetary Policy Committee - a collection of academic and industry economists - also came to the conclusion that rates were high enough, although the committee stopped short of calling for a rate cut. The minutes of the meeting, released today, show that the majority of the shadow MPC wanted to keep rates on hold. The committee also raised concerns about the Government's new generous spending plans, saying they would lead to

higher interest rates over the medium term.

Data released over the last month has given plenty of ammunition to the "doves" who believe interest rates should be frozen. There have been a variety of surveys showing falling business confidence, a weak set of inflation figures and evidence of slowing growth.

However the "hawks", who want rates to rise, can still point to worrying trends. Private sector earnings growth strongly, while the recent depreciation of sterling - which closed at DM2.909 on Friday - could also stoke inflation.

When the MPC surprised the City in June with a 0.25 point increase in base rates, earnings growth and a bout of sterling weakness helped tipped the balance in favour of a rate rise.

Marion Bell at the Royal Bank of Scotland commented: "For the August meeting, a rate hike remains possible,

with a further acceleration in average earnings growth likely to play on the MPC's mind. The concerns of the Bank seem to centre around average earnings growth and a sharp depreciation of sterling."

The other key factors in the equation are the Government's new spending plans and the national minimum wage. The Bank has yet to take either of these issues into consideration in its quarterly forecasts.

It is currently part way through preparing its August inflation bulletin when the impact of the policy changes will be taken into account. Some believe that if the Bank's analysis shows the policy changes have jeopardised the chances of meeting the inflation target, rates could go up again.

Economists at HSBC said: "On balance, we expect no change, but the new public spending plans and weakening sterling present upside risks."

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

THE CHANCELLOR of the Exchequer came under fresh pressure yesterday to dismiss "out of touch" economists from the Monetary Policy Committee and replace them with experts from "the real world".

With the powerful committee meeting starting this Wednesday to review interest rates, the GMB general union, one of the Labour Party's biggest affiliates, published a dossier of redundancies and plant closures allegedly caused by the high pound.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the union, claimed that the high interest rate policy could cause the loss of 250,000 jobs this winter if interest rates went up again. Union leaders partly blame the strong pound for the closure of the Siemens plant on Tyneside with the loss of 1100 jobs, which was announced on Friday.

The GMB argued that the drop in demand was now hitting all sectors of manufacturing including engineering, textiles, food processing, chemicals, the motor industry, building materials and furniture-making. The union's survey was conducted among its own representatives in ten regions.

Mr Edmonds said that manufacturing industry was especially vulnerable to the Monetary Policy Committee's attitude to interest rates. "Manufacturing industry is

being steered onto the rocks (recession) by a crew who do not seem to mind how many jobs go overboard as long as they ultimately get to the Holy Grail of low inflation."

He said members of the Committee had virtually no direct experience of industry. "They seem willing to sacrifice good companies for the sake of a tiny drop in the inflation rate. It reveals their lack of concern for the real economy."

He pointed out that only one member of the nine-strong committee - DeAnne Julius - has recent industrial experience having worked at British Airways and Shell.

"Ms Julius is the only member to call for an interest rate cut in June. We need more people like her on the committee who know how the real world works." He said that last week's Cabinet reshuffle did nothing to stop the slide into recession.

The union blamed the strong pound for recent redundancies at Grove Energy, Sunderland, CW Taylor in South Shields and Baker Perkins and Reynolds Switchgear in Hebburn. Reltec and Rainford was closing and Inco Alloys at Hereford had attacked the high pound.

In textiles and clothing, there have been factory closures and job losses at Pringles in Berwick and the William Baird Group's jacket plant at Guisborough. In food processing, expansion plans had been suspended and cutbacks were under way at Purer Foods in Poplar.

Shoppers rein in spending

BRITAIN is not heading for a consumer recession, although shoppers are reining in spending as interest rates start to bite, according to a new survey published today.

The report by Verdict, the retail consultants, says talk of a high street recession is "unnecessarily alarmist", but retailers of higher ticket items such as furniture, carpets and other more expensive household goods will continue to find the going tough.

BY NIGEL COPE

It states: "Shoppers are not slashing their spending as they did in the early 1990s. However, the memory of that recession is still fresh in people's minds so consumers are reacting with caution to current economic bad news."

The report says retail spending is still growing, but that the rate of growth has slowed. Retailers' pessimism is more to do with excessive expectations

and over-optimism. Too many mistook the windfall surge in spending last year as an ongoing trend rather than a one-off boost.

Verdict forecasts that real growth in consumer spending on goods will be just 2.2 per cent this year compared to the 5.2 per cent jump in 1997. With interest-rate pressure expected to ease later this year, the figure could rise to 2.6 per cent, and then above 3 per cent in the early 2000s.

The report concludes that the Bank of England's monetary policy, which reports again on interest rates this week, has done enough to cool demand.

However, the report forecasts that electrical retailers will benefit from the impact of digital technology, with a boom in demand for digital televisions, video recorders and products, such as mobile phones and personal computers where prices are falling.

The Anglo-Saxon twins part company

THE CBI survey, which was published last week, confirms that the UK has now embarked on a familiar end-of-cycle experience. The virtuous circle of the last few years - which has involved rising GDP growth, capital inflows, higher equity prices, a rising exchange rate and subdued domestic inflation - has clearly come to an end. Base rates should now have peaked, and the Bank may soon need to contemplate cuts as the economy slows.

This disappointing awakening, following several years of misplaced optimism about the underlying behaviour of the economy, immediately raises the far more significant question for the world economy of whether the UK might be about to suffer a similar disenchantment. Several points of comparison are relevant here.

First, there has been surprisingly little evidence that the underlying supply side behaviour of the US economy has been superior to that of the UK during the 1990s. Although the growth in productivity in the manufacturing sector has been much higher in the US over the past three years - which is very unusual - this is probably because the growth in both UK manufacturing output and productivity has been severely understated by the official British statisticians. For the economy as a whole, which is obviously more important than the manufacturing sector, there has been no sign of any significant divergence in



GAVYN DAVIES

There has been greater fiscal and monetary tightening in UK, and a rising real exchange rate

productivity performance between the two economies.

Essentially, both have recorded overall productivity growth of around 1.5 per cent per annum since 1985. There is no sign here of an underlying supply-side miracle in either economy.

Second, there is the question of the growth rate in real fixed investment, which has been very substantially higher in the US than in the UK in recent years. The cumulative growth rate in real fixed investment in the US over the past four years has been almost 40 per cent, as compared to under 20 per cent in the UK. This may to some extent explain the superior productivity performance in the US

manufacturing sector. However, there are a couple of offsetting points to bear in mind.

First, the path for real investment in the UK has probably been underestimated as a result of an overstatement in the price deflator for investment goods in Britain.

Second, and somewhat surprisingly, there is no evidence from the behaviour of capacity utilisation that the UK manufacturing sector has been operating at higher levels of capacity than its American counterpart. In fact, both US and UK manufacturing sectors have been working moderately above their normal capacity utilisation continuously over the past five years.

A third element of supply side performance concerns the structural level of unemployment, or NAIRU, in the labour market. Goldman Sachs economists estimate that the NAIRU in America may have dropped from around 7 per cent of the labour force in the late 1980s to around 5.5 per cent now. In the UK, it is more difficult to derive precise estimates for the NAIRU, but a sensible guess is that there has been a similar drop, from around 10 per cent of the labour force in the late 1980s to around 8 per cent today.

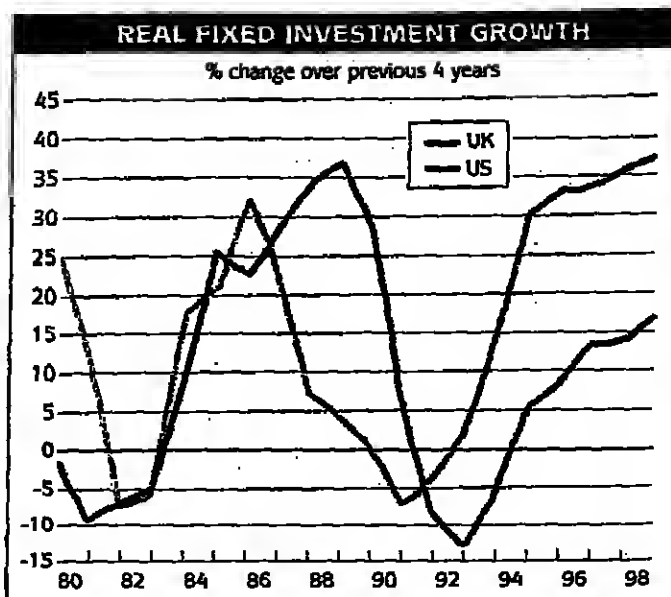
Overall, it appears therefore that there is relatively little evidence to suggest that the underlying supply side performance of the US economy has improved sharply relative to that of the UK in recent years. This, in turn, suggests that the US economy may be no better protected

from the adverse effects of a strong cyclical upswing than the UK economy has been. What, then, does account for the difference between the two economies?

The main factor is that the intensity of the cyclical upswing has been greater in the UK than in the US, so that resources have been under greater strain. UK GDP relative to trend has risen from a negative output gap of around 3 per cent in 1993 to a positive output gap of perhaps 1.5-2 per cent now. Therefore the upswing in the cycle, relative to trend, has been of the order of 4.5-5 per cent of GDP.

In the US, the upswing has been less intense, with the output gap rising from around -3 per cent in 1992 to about plus 1 per cent now, making a swing of 3 per cent in total. Thus, while the current levels of the output gaps in the two countries are broadly comparable, the change in the output gap in the UK has been much the greater.

In addition, the UK unemployment rate has dropped by almost 6 percentage points in the course of the recent upswing, while in the United States the decline in unemployment has been only half as large, at around 3 per cent. This difference has been clearly reflected in the behaviour of both earnings and prices. In the UK, private sector earnings have accelerated by around 3 percentage points over the last two years, while the equivalent acceleration in the US has been only



around 1 percentage point.

Similarly, the underlying rate of consumer price inflation in the UK has continued to run in the region of 3 per cent over the past two years, while in the US the same measure of inflation has fallen from around 3 per cent to about 2.25 per cent over the same period.

As inflation pressure has emerged, there has been a much greater fiscal and monetary tightening in Britain than in America, and a much larger rise in the real exchange rate. For example, the Goldman Sachs monetary conditions indicator for the UK has tight-

ened by around 400 basis points in the past two years, compared to a tightening of around 150bp in the US. Meanwhile, the fiscal impulse in Britain has swung towards tightening by around 5 per cent of GDP as compared to a swing of only about 1.5 per cent in the US. Finally, the effective exchange rate has been much more overvalued, relative to equilibrium, in Britain than in America.

Based on these comparisons, I conclude the following. First, the underlying supply side behaviour of the two economies has been surprisingly similar.

Second, the UK has been subject to a more intense demand-led upswing than the US.

Third, this has led to greater inflation pressure in the UK, both in the labour market and in the consumer price index.

Fourth, in response to this worsening inflation, there has been a much greater policy tightening in the UK.

Fifth, it is this clash between worsening inflation pressures and much tighter macro-economic policy which has led to the end of the cyclical upswing in Britain.

The clear implication for the US is that it may one day be subject to the same end-of-cycle problem that now faces the UK, if the US authorities make the mistake of allowing the pick-up in domestic demand to become too intense, leading eventually to the re-emergence of inflation pressures.

Once that happens, a familiar vicious circle can easily set in, involving tighter monetary policy, weaker equities, a reversal in the strong exchange rate, and the manifestation of inflation problems which had hitherto been disguised by the rising exchange rate.

It does not appear that the US economy is yet generating enough inflation pressure to induce this problem in the near future.

However, it is equally clear from British experience that nothing has happened in the 1990s to make this outcome impossible in the years ahead.

News Analysis: Prime Minister Obuchi is like 'a bald man trying to pull himself out of a morass by his hair'

Can Japan's old hands pull it off?

BY STEPHEN VINES

OUTSIDERS find Japanese jokes hard to appreciate. Yet even the most obtuse foreigner can understand the wags at the Tokyo stock exchange who describe the new government led by Keizo Obuchi as being like a "bald man trying to pull himself out of a morass by clutching his hair".

The task facing the new prime minister is so vast and the chances of success so low that it is surprising that there were any contestants for the post, let alone the three who stepped forward.

Before being installed as prime minister by a vote in the lower house, the House of Representatives (although he was rejected by the upper house), market-makers had been trumpeting the belief that Japan did not want a prime minister who was drawn from the mould of the 24 other prime ministers who have run the country since the war.

However Mr Obuchi, 61, is every bit an old-style machine politician who has risen steadily through the ranks and, in these times of economic woes, has little economic experience.

Once the new prime minister was installed last Thursday, these very same financial markets players were performing a turnaround, suggesting that a steady hand on the rudder was just what Japan needed, and that appointment of 78-year-old Kiichi Miyazawa as finance minister sent out a reassuring signal.

Mr Miyazawa, a former prime minister, has been around so long that everyone knows him, including key American economic policy-makers such as the Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve. They feel comfortable with him even though he had made it clear he was reluctant to take the job.

His disciple Koichi Kato, the outgoing secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, had already turned down the post because he aspires to the premiership and knows the pitfalls of being finance minister. Nevertheless he will do most of the legwork for Mr Miyazawa. The Obuchi-Miyazawa team faces the worst recession for half a century. Moreover all indicators indicate that it has not bottomed out.

The outgoing government had suggested that the economy could recover and expand by 1.9 per cent in the current fiscal year. Taichi Sakaiya, the new head of the Economic Planning Agency, firmly laid such optimism to rest at the end of last week saying: "I think it's impossible", and adding, "I myself foresee a major minus".

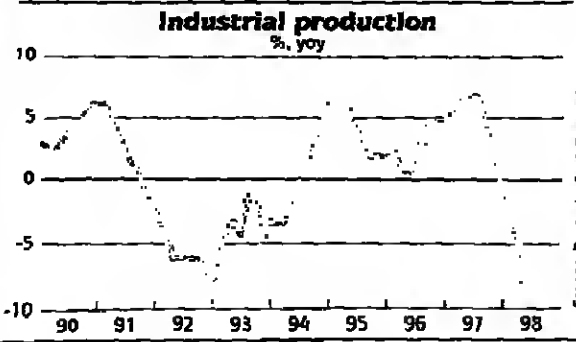
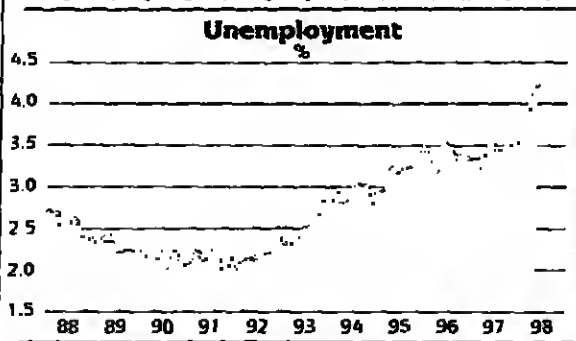
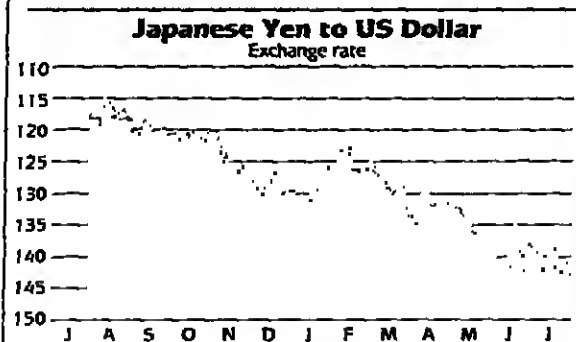
THE NEW REGIMES UPHILL STRUGGLE



Keizo Obuchi
Prime Minister



Kiichi Miyazawa
Finance Minister



The day after Mr Obuchi took office, new unemployment figures recorded a post-war high of 4.3 per cent, which is extremely high by Japanese standards. A report from the Dai Ichi Research and Management Institute, however, says that the true figure is 10-13.5 per cent if companies' in-house unemployment is taken into account.

Hovering over the economic gloom is a mountain of bad debts pulling the banking sector to its knees. Officially bad debt is estimated to have reached 700bn yen, a recently revised figure up from the previous estimate of 550bn yen. However private sector estimates put the figure at closer to 100,000bn yen (\$435 million).

To remedy the bad debt problem, banks are trying to call in bad or dubious loans, causing a ripple effect of corporate failures and redundancies. At a time of recession the banks are cutting lending, thus making increased borrowing hard for even export-led companies with growth potential.

Meanwhile, the yen keeps depreciating, in part because Japanese interest rates are at record lows, and more generally because confidence in the once mighty yen has evaporated.

The Japanese currency suffered another sharp fall last Friday, sliding to under 141 yen to the US dollar, after Mr Miyazawa made it clear that he would

not be intervening in the markets to support the currency. "The market is cleverer than the government and things can be left to the market," he said.

So what is the new team's strategy for getting out of this mess? "The most effective way is to throw money at consumption," said Mr Miyazawa. This is precisely the strategy being urged on the Japanese by the United States and practically everyone else worried that Japan will pull down the rest of the global economy.

In concrete terms it means that the government will try to implement a six trillion yen (\$260n) tax cut. Government spending is set to rise sharply with a further 244bn being thrown into the kitty, which in turn will add to domestic consumption.

Old ideas about reducing the budget deficit have been thrown out of the window and the government now accepts that it will need to issue deficit-covering bonds to finance this expenditure and the tax cutting measures.

However, an increasing flow of government paper poses the risk of further lowering Japanese credit ratings, which in turn means that even government debt would carry very high rates of interest.

The state of the commercial banking sector is so weak that even government optimists are not planning a solution.

The strategy is simply: To try to achieve a soft landing by creating officially sponsored "bridge banks" which will protect depositors of banks in difficulties. Some 286 billion yen (\$116bn) is being set aside for bridging loans, representing less than a third of the bad debt total, if more pessimistic estimates of that total are used.

The solutions proposed by the new government do not inspire much confidence. Some believe far more brutal measures are required which involve allowing more banks and other financial institutions to close alongside companies who cannot repay their debts.

This short, sharp shock treatment is seen as preferable to a drawn-out period of economic pain, holding out the hope of recovery in a shorter period.

Japanese government and corporate culture makes it hard to accept the short, sharp shock solution. Indeed it is hard to see how this could be implemented. Besides which, mass closures of companies and a sharp reduction in the size of the financial sector may knock away some of the strong foundations which created the Japanese economic miracle - a miracle now only dimly remembered.

BT blocks floating off Cellnet

BRITISH TELECOM has vetoed plans by Securicor, the security services group, to float off its 40 per cent stake in Cellnet, the mobile phone operator. Robert Brace, BT's finance director, said last week that the telecom giant - which owns the remaining 60 per cent of Cellnet - would oppose any attempt by Securicor to obtain a stock market listing for Cellnet.

The move is certain to revive speculation that BT is gearing up to take full control of Cellnet. BT tried to buy out Securicor's 40 per cent shareholding in 1996, but the deal was blocked by the Department of Trade and Industry. However, observers have long assumed that the cur-

rent government would not block the deal.

BT is also due to receive a \$7bn (\$4bn) cash payment in return for its 20 per cent stake in MCI, the US telecom giant whose merger with Worldcom is due to be cleared later this month.

Although the group has asked shareholders for permission to buy back 10 per cent of its shares, Peter Bonfield, BT's chief executive, has hinted that the group has better uses for the cash. The \$10bn (\$6bn) joint venture with AT&T, unveiled last week, does not require BT to invest any cash.

Securicor had been exploring the possibility of a stock market listing as a way of realising the value of its investment in the group.

Shares in Orange and Vodafone - the two listed mobile phone operators - have soared this year and demand for Cellnet shares would be strong. By floating its 40 per cent stake Securicor - which is increasingly keen to find an exit from Cellnet - would be able to return the cash to its shareholders.

Analysts calculate that, on a similar valuation to Orange, Cellnet is worth more than £7bn, valuing Securicor's stake at almost £3bn.

BT was thought to have agreed a price of £1.2bn for the stake when the deal was blocked.

Securicor now believes BT would have to offer twice as much to clinch a deal, but observers reckon BT will not pay more than £2bn. This may explain why BT opposed the flotation.

Moreover, BT is not believed to be in any hurry to do a deal. The group has always maintained it would like to own all of Cellnet, if the government would allow it, to fully integrate the mobile operator into its business, offering subscribers a single bill for all their mobile and fixed-line calls.

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Black Lady's red rag to the bulls

WILL other fund managers follow the lead of the "Black Lady" and start dumping UK equities in anticipation of a sharp stock market correction? The question has been engaging the best brains in the Square Mile ever since Tuesday, when the top fund manager Scottish Widows, known as the Black Lady, sold about £450m worth of shares.

The memory goes back to 1987, when the Scottish fund manager offloaded a similar amount of equity just before the stock market crash. A coincidence - or are we in for another correction?

Scottish Widows insists that the move was not a vote of non-confidence in the Footsie and points out that, unlike 1987, this time around they did not switch their funds into bonds, but kept them in the Footsie, albeit in the form of future contracts.

Other fund managers note that such a large-scale offload of equities is bound to increase nervousness and volatility in the market. However, they do not seem to believe that Scottish Widows' actions will trigger a stampede towards the exit.

According to Nicola Horlick, the star fund manager who is joint managing director at SocGen, "clearly the market is a little nervous," partly because of Scottish Widows' actions, but mostly because of uncertainty over the direction of the economy.

However, she maintains that fundamentals should put a floor to any fall and believes the maximum loss in the Footsie over the next half-year or so will be no more than 200 points - not enough to get out on a mass.

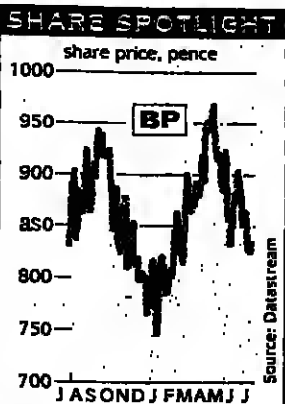
Bob Parker, who manages \$38bn of funds for Credit Suisse Asset Management, is another exponent of the floor theory. He thinks that the slowdown in the economy, the recent string of profit warnings and, partly, Scottish's move, have unnerved the market. But he maintains that the downward trend on interest rates and the likely depreciation of sterling will cap any losses to around 5 per cent of the present value, while high levels of liquidity from institutions and retail investors will provide some upside momentum.

Michael Hughes, a director

STOCK MARKET WEEK



FRANCESCO GUERRERA



with Barings Asset Management, is also a cautious bull. He does not think other fund managers will be "rushing to do a tactical readjustment", Scottish Widows-style. He is convinced that there is still life in this market, especially if retail investors maintain the buying mood displayed so far.

This week will provide a stern test of the bulls' convictions, with results from no less than 15 blue-chips and an interest rate decision on the calendar. With the bulk of the City convinced that rates will stay put, most of the uncertainty will come from the corporate front.

Banks will be again over-represented, with five of them set to report their interims. HSBC, the Hong Kong-based giant, is first on the block today, with much of the attention focused on bad debt provision. Analysts are forecasting a tripling of provisions to around £660m, reflecting the worsening of the Asian crisis during the period. Profits should be down 6 per cent to around £2.6bn, but much of the earnings' bad news is already in the share price.

Similar problems will crop up on Wednesday in Standard Chartered's results, with the Asia-hit profits expected to come in 10 per cent lower at around £400m.

Among the domestic banks, Barclays and NatWest will capture most of the attention, not least because of the ever-present talk of a merger. NatWest's figures, out tomorrow, should show a rise in profits to slightly more than £800m.

Watch out for improved performance at NatWest UK and Greenwich NatWest and for some progress in reducing expenses in the rest of the group.

It is Barclays' turn on Thursday and it should be looking much leaner and fitter than a year ago. The ambition to become a huge global player is long gone and what is left is a healthy focus on the core business.

The downsizing of BZW, its investment banking arm is also completed, while the core UK retail operations are expected to show good income growth. Analysts at BT Alex Brown are shooting for a pre-tax of £1.32bn, up from £1.27bn a year ago.

Oil is the other sector under scrutiny this week, with BP and Shell telling the world how the second quarter went. Expect long walls about the injustice of another sharp fall in oil prices. At BP net income is set to have taken a 25 per cent knock to, say, £552m, while Shell should have fared slightly better with a 18 per cent fall in net income to £1.69bn.

But for real fun, head for the Rank's results meeting. The company will no doubt try to talk numbers, but the City and the Press will want to know whether the Butlins-bingo group has received an hostile bid from venture capitalists. After fielding endless variations of the question: "Are you being taken over?", Rank's management may be able to announce that they have made a profit of around £85.95m, compared with £87m a year ago.

Unlever rounds off a busy week on Friday. Second quarter results should be around £770m, up from £746m. Expect questions on sterling's impact, ice-cream monopoly investigations, margins, and its huge cash pile.

Row brewing over Diageo bonus plan

DIAGEO, the drinks group, is heading for a further showdown with shareholders over executive bonus schemes after fresh details emerged of lavish share options packages being made available to its American executives.

Tony Greener, the executive chairman, is already under pressure to tone down the proposed share bonuses for up to 200 senior executives or face an open attack from angry investors at the company's annual meeting on 11 August. Around 50 top American managers stand to receive even greater option windfalls of up to five times their annual salaries.

The major beneficiaries include Paul Walsh, the head of Pilsbury bakery division, who

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

could get up to £2.65m worth of shares; Dennis Malamatinas, who runs Burger King and is in line for up to £2.1m worth of shares; and Jack Keenan, head of United Distillers, whose potential windfalls would be worth £2.8m.

Executives will have to pay for their options, and the incentives will only be triggered if Diageo shares rank in the top 10 of a peer group of 20 US companies, including Gillette, Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

The maximum rewards will only be attained if Diageo finishes in the top three, the spokesman said.

Both Grand Metropolitan and Guinness, which merged to



Paul Walsh: Set to get a bonus worth £2.65m

form Diageo, have been in the bottom quartile prior to their deal last year. But institutional shareholders fear that US standards could become the norm

in the UK, widening still further the gap between executive remuneration and the wages of their employees.

The bonuses are dependent on the Diageo share price and dividends outperforming rivals, but the performance criteria are too low, according to dissident shareholders who include Hermes, the UK fund manager.

Standard Life and Norwich Union have also expressed opposition to the scheme which will give Tony Greener shares worth up to 2.5 times his £750,000 salary and chief executive John McGrath similar rewards on top of a salary of £550,000. More than 100 other executives stand to get similar percentage bonuses.

Lack of skills forces change in training

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

SKILL SHORTAGES have hit output in nearly half of British companies over the last year, according to a new annual enquiry conducted by the Confederation of British Industry.

While the CBI's employment trends survey shows a decisive shift in the attitude of employees toward flexibility and companies toward the need for training, both service and manufacturing sectors reported a debilitating lack of qualified staff.

The study of 671 companies employing 2.4 million workers found that only 27 per cent of firms experienced a shortage of job applicants, but 71 per cent said there was a serious lack of qualified recruits. Researchers also found that nearly a fifth of companies either expected a claim for statutory union recognition or thought it was possible because of the "Fairness at Work" White Paper.

Since the survey was conducted by the CBI and consultants William M Mercer, the Government has decided that recognition would only be granted where 40 per cent of the workforce opted for it, not just the majority in a ballot. However, ministers also propose awarding automatic recognition where more than half of the relevant staff are union members.

Larger companies were more likely to expect a claim. Almost a quarter of organisations with more than 5,000 employees expected an approach from unions and a similar proportion believed it was possible.

Just 7 per cent of companies employing between 200 and 499 people felt there would be a claim, with 17 per cent believing it was possible. For those companies with up to 199 staff, the figures were 3 per cent and 16 per cent respectively.

Ten per cent of manufacturing and service sector companies thought unions would seek an agreement. Only 2 per cent had withdrawn union recognition in the last five years.

Adair Turner, CBI director general, pointed to the "sheer variety" of employment policies and practices which now existed throughout business.

There were serious skills shortages, but there was evidence that companies were responding, he said.

Over 60 per cent of respondents in the survey now used competency and skill-based schemes for determining pay.

Police weigh arrests over pension sales

BY ANDREW VERITY

SCOTLAND YARD is considering bringing criminal charges against directors of three leading insurance companies following an investigation into allegations connected to the UK's £15bn pension mis-selling debacle.

Detectors at the fraud squad of the Metropolitan Police are set to pass a file to the Serious Fraud Office to consider bringing a criminal prosecution after a year-long inquiry into possible breaches of the Financial Services Act 1986.

If the charges are pressed, directors responsible for the conduct of sales people in the years when pensions were mis-sold will be interviewed under caution. If they are found guilty of the alleged breaches, the maximum punishment they could face is seven years in jail.

Under Section 47 of the Act, sales people are barred from knowingly making reckless or misleading statements in order to induce a client to enter into an investment contract. The Act provides for criminal as well as civil sanctions, and directors can be held to account for the actions of their sales forces.

Detectors began their inquiry after victims of mis-selling complained. Neither the regulator, formerly the Securities and Investments Board and now the Financial Services Authority, nor the Treasury,

had referred any cases connected to pension mis-selling to the police.

The victims claim that both regulators and Treasury had a duty to refer cases to the police if there was sufficient evidence to suggest there had been breaches of the Act's criminal provisions. Both the Treasury and the FSA have confined themselves instead to pushing forward the pension mis-selling review by fining companies for regulatory breaches and publicly dressing down companies which are slow in compensating victims.

Insurance companies and independent financial advisers are themselves in charge of deciding, according to regulators' guidelines, whether compensation is owed. Four years after the review began into nearly two million cases of potential mis-selling, nearly 1.5 million are still to be addressed.

But detectives at Scotland Yard's fraud squad now believe they have enough evidence, in the form of statements from former sales people, to ask the Serious Fraud Office to consider bringing a full criminal prosecution.

A spokesman for Scotland Yard confirmed the investigation into possible criminal charges connected to pension mis-selling was ongoing, but declined to comment. Names of companies and directors are currently being withheld.

IN BRIEF

US group close £1bn buyout

KOHLBERG Kravis Roberts, the US buyout specialist, is close to a £1bn-plus deal to buy Herberts, the paint division of Hoechst, the German chemicals and pharmaceuticals group. KKR is set to outbid rivals including the venture capital group Cinven with what would be the largest European buyout of the 1990s. Herberts operates in several European countries and specialises in paint for the automotive industry.

Aon counterbid

Aon Corporation, the US insurance giant that operates in the UK, may make a counter-bid for UK insurance brokers Willis Corroon, topping the £85m offer from KKR last month. KKR has already received acceptances from almost 30 per cent of Willis Corroon shareholders and stands to gain a fee of £8m from Willis if it accepts a higher offer. Willis could also be sued by a US fund manager Royce & Associates which claims that the KKR bid under-values the company.

Jobs warning

The minimum wage will deny people the chance to work, the new president of the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday. The £3.60-an-hour rate, to be implemented by the National Minimum Wage Act, which became law on Friday, was at the "top end" of the range the CBI saw as being "workable", said Sir Clive Thompson, chief executive of Rentokil Initial. "What I'm really against is the issue simply because I think it denies people the opportunity of being employed," he told the BBC1 programme Breakfast With Frost. "If you have a job to offer me at £3 an hour simply because you can't sell your particular product at anything more than employing me at £3 an hour, you're denying me the opportunity of doing a job."

Racal sale hope

Racal Electronics could announce the sales of its loss-making Data Communications subsidiary this week. The most likely buyer is said to be Platinum Equity Holdings of the US and the likely price is in the region of £60m-80m which would leave Racal nursing a loss of up to £200m when its results for the year to 31 March are announced. Racal Telecommunications leads the consortium which last week was awarded a £1bn contract to overhaul communications on the London Underground system.

THIS WEEK'S DIARY

MONDAY — Finance: Filtronic. Interims: HSGC. Economics: Purchasing Managers Survey for June.
TUESDAY — Interims: NatWest Bank, Rank, Mayflower, Q2 from BP.
WEDNESDAY — Interims: Standard Chartered Bank, Woolwich, Cadbury.
THURSDAY — Finance: Tetra. Interims: Schweppes, GKN, Capital Shopping Centres, Transport Developments, Economics: Industrial production for June, Purchasing Managers' services survey for June, MPC meeting on interest rates for July.
FRIDAY — Interims: Alliance & Leicester, Unilever.

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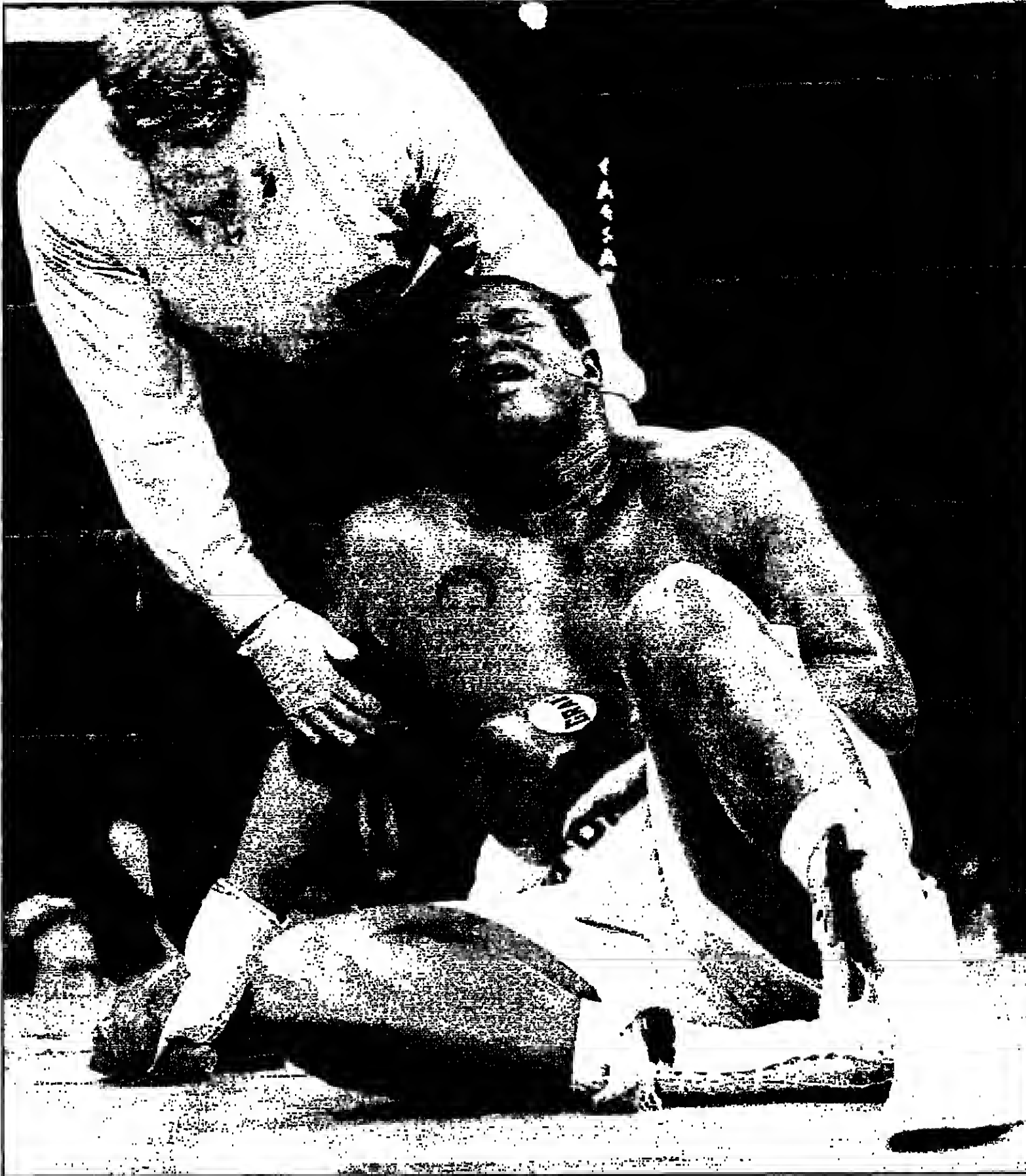
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SPORT

Boxing: Former world heavyweight champion faces jail after abducting estranged wife and five children at knifepoint



Rise and fall: Bowe with title belts after 1992 defeat of Evander Holyfield and (right) after low blow in first fight against Andrzej Golota in July 1996. A brutal second fight, in December, forced him to retire

Al Bello/Allsport

The disintegration of Riddick Bowe

The boxer once affectionately known as 'Big Daddy' has seen his life descend into turmoil since he retired last year. Glyn Leach examines a disturbing decline

IT WAS the day that signified the completion of a meteoric fall from grace by the former world heavyweight champion Riddick Bowe: one of the fastest, most dramatic journeys from hero to zero in the history of a sport littered with fallen idols. And as a consequence of his actions on 25 February 1998, the 30-year-old New York giant will be an inmate of a Federal jail within four weeks.

On 4 June a Washington DC court heard Bowe admit to abducting his estranged wife and former childhood sweetheart, Judy, and the couple's five children at knifepoint – "an act of misguided love", according to his defence attorney. And maybe so: Bowe's mother-in-law and next door neighbour had apparently commented: "If he was a man, he'd go there and get her."

For whatever reason, Bowe drove to his wife's home in Cornelius, South Carolina, armed with a knife, pepper gas spray, handcuffs and masking tape. He forced his family into the car then drove 200 miles to a McDonald's in South Hill, Virginia, where Judy was able to get word to the authorities who apprehended the 6ft 5in, 20st former champion.

Although Judy was unhurt, refused medical attention and declined to press charges, Bowe was found guilty under the federal Violence Against Women Act. The maximum sentence for such a crime is 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 (£155,000) fine, but plea-bargaining has reduced Bowe's likely sentence to around two years.

It is a stunning development that has shocked even those who have followed the disturbing events in Bowe's life since his retirement from boxing in early in 1997, a direct result of his second brutal encounter with Andrzej Golota in December 1996.

Prior to the first Golota fight, Bowe was widely regarded as the best heavyweight in the world. The previous November he had become the only man to knock out Evander Holyfield, with whom he had a memorable three-fight series; Bowe won the undisputed heavyweight championship from Holyfield in November 1992 and lost it to him one year later: in the infamous "Fan Man" fight in Las Vegas, when an errant paragliding enthusiast interrupted the open-air bout in round seven.



Bowe, in the good years, with wife Judy, his childhood sweetheart since the age of 13. The couple married at 21

But by Christmas 1996 Bowe, incredibly, was a shot fighter on the verge of a surprisingly early retirement in an era when heavyweights like George Foreman and Larry Holmes, who are scheduled to meet next January, are fighting into their 50s.

But the second Golota fight had taken a heavy toll. Bowe slurred badly in the post-fight interview; his mumbled speech was

almost impenetrable. It would have been unrealistic to have expected Bowe still to be the young prospect who, so full of hope after winning the silver medal at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, would entertain the media with impersonations of his idol, Muhammad Ali. But the extremity of Bowe's deterioration was alarming. He was persuaded to retire or risk a fate similar to Ali's.

After meeting Bowe earlier this year, Holyfield said: "It's all kinds of sad. He was slurring his words and his demeanour was quite different. You kind of wonder what happened with a guy as young as him."

Life after boxing is never easy for a fighter to face. But the sheer, unprecedented velocity of Bowe's decline has sent him off the rails and headed for jail.

His first move in retirement was a disastrous foray into the US Marine Corps; it was as if Bowe realised that, with boxing training camps a thing of the past, he still needed a regimented environment in order to hold his life together. But Bowe had never been a major fan of discipline and quit after just eight days.

His former manager, Rock Newman – now a spin-doctor for the controversial Washington politician, Marion Barry – attempted to keep Bowe occupied with community-orientated projects. But the frustration of an athlete cut off in his prime soon told on Bowe and his personal life began to disintegrate last year.

Police were called after a physical altercation between Bowe and his sister, Thelma, but no charges resulted from the fracas 18 months ago. But Bowe awaits trial on charges of assaulting Judy last August, and also an adult nephew, Joey Bowe, three months later. And in March of this year Judy and the children moved out of the \$1.5m family home.

Bowe was a popular figure, regarded as one of boxing's nice guys, as illustrated by corporate sponsorships – rare for boxing – from blue-chip companies such as Fila and Sergio Tacchini.

Known as "Big Daddy", Bowe has the images of his children – now aged between two and 11 years old – tattooed on his chest. He had been with Judy since both were 13-year-olds in Brownsville, Brooklyn, and the couple married at 21.

The second youngest of 13 children – in 1988 a sister, Brenda, was killed by muggers and a brother, Henry, died of AIDS – Bowe's family meant everything to him, but a tragic series of events has robbed him of the things that mattered most in his life. And those very things seem to have destroyed him.

He checked himself into a hospital for psychiatric evaluation later on the day of the abduction. He was released with the advice to undergo anger-management therapy – too little, too late, it seems.

Now Bowe is a forlorn figure living alone at the family home, under house arrest and with an electronic ankle bracelet informing the authorities if he should stray further than his postbox. And as he sits out the remainder of the 90-day period before sentencing takes place, a famous boxing maxim will be playing on Bowe's mind: the bigger they come, the harder they fall.

Unflinching look into the eye of a needle

Rough Ride: Behind the Wheel with a Pro Cyclist
(The Yellow Jersey Press, Paperback £8.00)
By Paul Kimmage

IN THE current climate, it's unlikely that yesterday's final stage of the Tour de France featured a repeat of the scene witnessed by Paul Kimmage in 1986 – a rider injecting himself in the shoulder with amphetamine as the mad dash on the Champs-Élysées drew near. Yesterday, no one would have dared.

The drug storm that engulfed this year's Tour has been characterised by breathtaking disingenuousness – as if a sport hitherto distinguished by its Corinthian clean-

liness had suddenly been besmirched by a few cheats. Anyone who has read Kimmage's book – first published eight years ago and now, with remarkable prescience, reissued in paperback – will know that drugs have been in cycling for as long as there have been drugs to take. Ask Tommy Simpson. Rough Ride might have been subtitled "How I tried to be a successful, drug-free pro cyclist – and failed."

The Irishman, who rode the Tour three times in the 1980s, rose through the ranks via the classical route of a couple of years of hard amateur grind in France, then signed as a professional and immediately hit the wall he would spend the rest of his brief career banging his head against. His team-mates used freely;

BOOK OF THE WEEK

he would not even have vitamin injections.

Nobody takes drugs to win in cycling. Stage winners and race leaders are tested, so what would be the point? Kimmage's colleagues took them either to survive, to reach Paris in one piece, or to put on a show. Winners for one-day criteriums were decided beforehand, but the promoters wanted plenty of attacks and breakaways. Amphetamines conferred that power.

Kimmage held firm against the needle until just after his second Tour. "The bag is produced... a

glance is thrown in my direction... If I walk through the door with only the hotel lunch in my system I will crack mentally... I can't face any more humiliation. I need the money... I nod in acceptance."

He did it twice more, but resolved thereafter to stay clean. At least he didn't shoot up during races, though no one could have blamed him if he had. Team managers would be told what doping controls were in operation that day and pass the information on with a nod and a wink.

The one-day Classics were known as the Grands Prix des Chaudières, (Chaudières being the word for users). Three fixes in four years? Kimmage should be proud of himself.

He was never going to be a star, drug-free or charged-up, and writing came to feel like a better option. When the book first came out, though, Kimmage found out what happens to those who "spit in the soup", which he recounts in the new introduction: he was publicly attacked by his old pal, Stephen Roche, and shunned by many more of his former comrades-at-arms when he returned to the Tour in 1990 as a journalist. If occasionally he sounded bitter, perhaps it is not so surprising. He concludes the discussion of doping in sport with sadness in his voice: "Would I encourage my child in the pursuit of sporting excellence?" he asks. "No. I don't think I would."

Chris Maume

THIS WEEK'S TOP TEN SPORTS BOOKS

- 1 **Rough Ride – Behind the Wheel With a Pro Cyclist** By Paul Kimmage (Yellow Jersey, paperback £8.00)
- 2 **Only a Game?** By Eamon Dunphy (Penguin, paperback £6.99)
- 3 **Postcards from the Beach** By Phil Tuohy (Collins Willow, paperback, £6.99)
- 4 **Left Foot in the Grave** By Garry Nelson (Collins Willow, paperback, £6.99)
- 5 **The Sporting News Pro Football Guide 1998** (The Sporting News, paperback, £13.95)
- 6 **The Inside Track – The Professional Approach** By Alan Potts (Rowton Press, hardback £18.00)
- 7 **Gunning for the Double – The Story of Arsenal's 1997-98 Season** By Kevin Whitcher (Sporting Editions, paperback, £9.99)
- 8 **Miguel Indurain – A Life on Wheels** By Pablo Munoz (Mousehold Press, paperback, £9.50)
- 9 **Spread Betting** By Andrew Burke (Rowton Press, paperback, £8.95)
- 9 **The Guv'nor** By Lenny McLean (Blake, hardback, £14.99)

List compiled by Sportspages, 94-96 Charing Cross Road, London (0171-240 9604) and St Ann's Square, Manchester (0161-832 8530). www.sportspages.co.uk

Joe 11/10/50

Parnevik survives pressure at home

BY JOHN OAKLEY
in Stockholm

JESPER PARNEVIK won the Volvo Scandinavian Masters in his native Stockholm in superb style yesterday, beating off a challenge from Darren Clarke with comparative ease.

Parnevik began the day two shots ahead of Clarke and finally ended three shots in front of his fellow Ryder Cup player with a final round 70 for an aggregate of 273, 11 under par.

Clarke finished runner-up in a European Tour event for the second successive week, having been beaten by one shot by Stephen Leaney in the Dutch Open last Sunday.

The Irishman was not pleased with his game yesterday and said: "Two seconds running and a third in all this year is not good. I'm not happy at being second, I'm disappointed."

"But I can't complain. Jesper played very solidly and it didn't help when I dropped a shot at the second hole. I needed a good start to put pressure on him and that put me back right away."

"I never really got close and when I knocked a birdie putt in at the 15th which might have given me a final chance he followed me in for a birdie himself."

"Then when I made bogey at the 16th I knew the tournament was over. But I guess I've got a big cheque and I've moved up from fourth to second in the Order of Merit so that's nice."

Clarke has other things on his mind. His wife, Heather, is expecting her first baby and the Irishman flew home last night.

on a special flight to Ireland immediately after the prize-giving. It was the second time that Parnevik has won this tournament, the 33-year-old was also successful in Malmö in 1995.

"It's a great feeling to win in front of your own people," he said. "The first time was great. But perhaps the second time is greater."

"It's very hard to win before your home crowd. They not only want you to win but they expect you to win so the pressure is really on you. Now I just feel very tired."

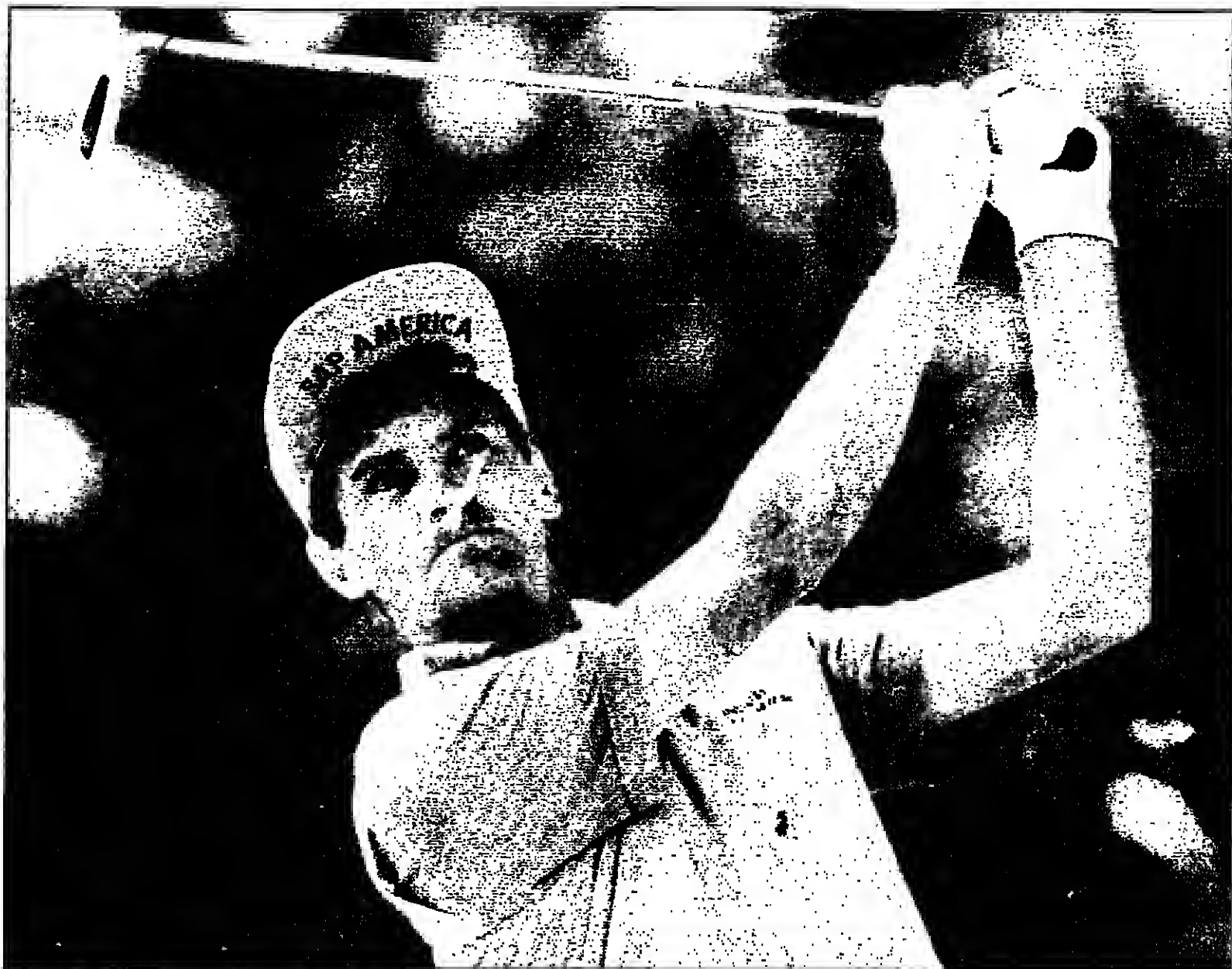
"I haven't been putting well and had 37 putts in the third round but today I holed a few good ones coming down the stretch."

"I thought I had won it coming down the 13th but Darren holed two good birdie putts at 14 and 15 to put the pressure back on. But then he dropped a shot at the 16th and I knew it was over."

While Parnevik and Clarke dominated the day's play, Britain's Stephen Field put in a storming finish to finish third, one shot behind Clarke, and won £50,000, the biggest cheque of his career to guarantee his Tour card for another year.

"I've only made two cuts this year before this week and had won only £7,000. Now I'm thrilled to bits because it takes all the pressure off my shoulders for the rest of the year."

Colin Montgomerie shot 69 to finish on 282, nine shots behind Parnevik, but said: "It wasn't too bad today. I holed a few putts so I shall go to the States next Friday to prepare for the USPGA in a pretty good frame of mind."



The fee feels the winning force of Sweden's Jasper Parnevik in the Scandinavian Open yesterday

Reuters

Pay-off for Huggett

BRIAN HUGGETT snatched the Schröder Senior Masters' title with a three-foot birdie putt in a tense sudden-death play-off with former Ryder Cup colleague Neil Coles and Eddie Pollard at Wentworth yesterday.

All three finished level on seven-under-par 209 before the Welshman struck a six-iron to within three feet of the 18th play-off hole for his winning birdie three.

He was his first time since picking up the Shell Scottish Seniors at Aberdeen in 1995 and he owed it to a superb closing 66 which equalled the best of the week. He had started out four shots off the pace and set the clubhouse target later

matched by both Coles (68) and Pollard (70).

The trio, all former Ryder Cup team-mates, all at Muirfield back in 1973, grabbed the lime-light throughout the day. But it was 61-year-old Huggett, winner of 31 titles worldwide and eight as a senior, who had to come up to the last hole with a big crowd cheering. I thought those days had long gone."

The Broome Manor club professional Barry Sandry who celebrated his 51st birthday with a 66 in the opening round, stayed with the big names until the closing holes. But he then stumbled with three bogeys for a 70 and a four-under-par 212 for fourth spot alongside Tommy Horton (69).

and took him to third place in the Senior Tour rankings behind Tommy Horton and Bobby Verwey with £37,572.

He said: "I've been putting like a 36-handicap for the past two years. I was owed a few and collected some today. It was great to come up to the last hole with a big crowd cheering. I thought those days had long gone."

The Broome Manor club professional Barry Sandry who celebrated his 51st birthday with a 66 in the opening round, stayed with the big names until the closing holes. But he then stumbled with three bogeys for a 70 and a four-under-par 212 for fourth spot alongside Tommy Horton (69).

Sanders stands firm to hold off Gorry

MARK SANDERS is the new English amateur champion after a comprehensive 6 and 5 victory over Simon Gorry in the 36-hole final at Woodhall Spa on Saturday.

After the first 18 holes Sanders, a 23-year-old Gloucestershire County player from the Bristol and Clifton club, was only one up, and that after going three down at the seventh.

But following the third two holes of the afternoon, Sanders won the next two, including the fourth with an incredible 50-foot putt, to go three up. He finished in style with a birdie three at the 13th.

"It hasn't sunk in yet," said Sanders, who is coached by Gordon Brand Snr and regularly plays with European Tour member Gordon Brand Jnr.

Mark Pilkington took the Welsh title with a 2 and 1 victory over Kyron Sullivan, despite his opponent winning four in a row to reduce the deficit to one in a late charge.

In Prestwick, Graham Rankin won his first national title at the J&B Scottish Amateur Championship. The 32-year-old was always too strong for Mark Donaldson and ended the day a comfortable 6 and 5 winner.

Britons rally to claw back deficit

KELLEE BOOTH, Brenda Corrie-Kuehn and Beth Bauer won their singles matches on Saturday to help the United States to a 5-4-3 lead over Great Britain and Ireland after the first day of the Curtis Cup.

"I have to admit, I was the most nervous person out there," Barbara McIntire, the US captain, said. "It's easier to be calmer if you have a little bit of a lead. This is not a big lead, believe me."

Great Britain and Ireland closed to within two points when Becky Morgan and Elaine Ratcliffe won the final two matches in the two-day biennial competition at The Minikahda Club course in Minneapolis.

"We finished on a high note," Ita Butler, the visitors' captain, said. "Our players didn't give up, they kept trying. It's great to see that spirit. We're all quite optimistic at this point."

The US Open play-off loser Jenny Chuasiriporn rallied from four holes down to halve her match with the British amateur champion, Rebecca Hudson, who at 19 is the youngest member of the GBI team.

"Jenny is a great golfer," Hudson said. "She had some very good putts."

"I was thinking just one shot at a time," Chuasiriporn said. "I'm glad to have the match after starting so poorly."

Bauer beat Hillary Monaghan 5 and 3. Booth defeated Kim Roston 2 and 1, and Corrie-Kuehn beat Alison Rose 3 and 2. In the final two matches, Morgan beat Jo Jo Robertson 2 and 1, and Ratcliffe edged out Carole Semple Thompson 3 and 2.

The United States took a 2-1 lead in the morning foursomes. Corrie-Kuehn and Booth beat Fiona Brown and Karen Stupples 2 and 1, and Virginia Derby-Grimes and Robin Burke beat Rose and Morgan 3 and 2. Roston and Ratcliffe defeated Bauer and Chuasiriporn one-up.

Great Britain and Ireland won two years ago in Ireland, and have won or drawn in five of the last six meetings. But the United States still lead the series 20 to 6, with three matches drawn.

RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS

JUB SPORTS SUPER LEAGUE
Cardiff 12-12, Leeds 14-16, Castleford 17-15, Huddersfield 18-10, Wakefield 19-12, Wigan 20-11, Hull 21-10, Salford 22-9, Rochdale 23-8, Doncaster 24-7, Barnsley 25-6, Halifax 26-5, Featherstone 27-4, Hunslet 28-3, Keighley 29-2, Bradford 30-1, Dewsbury 31-0, Batley 32-0, Rotherham 33-0, York 34-0, Lincoln 35-0, Macclesfield 36-0, Rochdale 37-0, Doncaster 38-0, Barnsley 39-0, Halifax 40-0, Featherstone 41-0, Hunslet 42-0, Keighley 43-0, Bradford 44-0, Dewsbury 45-0, Batley 46-0, Rotherham 47-0, York 48-0, Lincoln 49-0, Macclesfield 50-0, Rochdale 51-0, Doncaster 52-0, Barnsley 53-0, Halifax 54-0, Featherstone 55-0, Hunslet 56-0, Keighley 57-0, Bradford 58-0, Dewsbury 59-0, Batley 60-0, Rotherham 61-0, York 62-0, Lincoln 63-0, Macclesfield 64-0, Rochdale 65-0, Doncaster 66-0, Barnsley 67-0, Halifax 68-0, Featherstone 69-0, Hunslet 70-0, Keighley 71-0, Bradford 72-0, Dewsbury 73-0, Batley 74-0, Rotherham 75-0, York 76-0, Lincoln 77-0, Macclesfield 78-0, Rochdale 79-0, Doncaster 80-0, 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trip, which on earlier forms, looked as if it would be on the sharp side for him. He is clearly in good heart and is taken to defy an 8lb rise in the weights. Balemark may cheer him home.



Fans' favourite Carl Fogarty (right) shadows the Ducati of Italy's Pierfrancesco Chili during the first race at Brands Hatch yesterday AP

Ultimate showman steals the thunder

MOTORCYCLING

BY ANDREW MARTIN
at Brands Hatch

CARL FOGARTY did not produce the win he craved here yesterday, but after banishing the handling problems that had restricted him to a fourth place in the first leg, a barnstorming second in the following race brought a crowd of 80,000 to its feet and swept aside dark mutterings of retirement at the end of this season.

But the 33 points the twice-former world champion from Blackburn acquired over both legs may not prove sufficient to secure a third title. The 1998 World Superbike Championship now appears the prize of Troy Corser. The Australian gave an imperious performance in the second race to finish some three seconds ahead of Fogarty. Corser leads the riders' standings from Fogarty by 30.5 points, with three rounds remaining.

The first race was dominated by the Castrol Honda riders Colin Edwards and Aaron Slight and the Yamaha-mounted Scott Russell in third.

It was Fogarty, however, who was the premier attraction and his sterling ride in the second race did not disappoint. Having strived to find traction on a circuit covered in a fine film of dust, the result of the previous day's downpour, Fogarty - like Corser - switched to an untired wider rear tyre. It proved a critical improvement to his bike's handling and Fogarty was soon making rapid progress from the third row of the grid.

On the third lap he flashed past the Suzuki rider James Whitham on the Brabham Straight, his trademark glare now locked firmly on Edwards' rear wheel. His dogged trailing of the lean Texan quickly reaped dividends as a pressured Edwards missed a gear change, allowing Fogarty to roar past and into second.

By the race's midpoint, Fogarty had begun to shave fractions of a second off Corser's lap times, cutting the deficit to 3.6sec by lap 15. Shadowing Fogarty's determined pursuit was Whitham. The Britons were making good progress, but the Honda of Edwards was closing the gap with the second and third-placed riders. Yet just as it seemed he must pounce Edwards ran wide at Paddock three laps from the finish.

Fogarty was unaware that his friend Whitham was applying pressure on his precious second place - "If I'd have known it was him I'd have been really nervous," he admitted afterwards. Whitham was rewarded with a lap record and his first podium finish of the championship.

Fogarty's comments before yesterday's round were interpreted as a signal that he may retire. However, after the second race Fogarty's mood had transformed from one of earlier frustration to glee and he

promised to be back at Brands Hatch next year.

"I never said I was going to retire," a grinning Fogarty said. "What I did say was that I've been racing a long time and I've won a few world titles and lost a few races. I never said I was going to quit. Right now I want to be racing next year because I know I'm still good enough to win races."

The first race testified to the Castrol Honda team's correct choice of tyres. After leading from pole, his sixth this season, Corser rapidly began to fade as Edwards found grip where the others found only frustration. The Honda rider had taken the lead by the fourth lap and in tandem with Slight, the pair edged further from the chasing pack.

Fogarty then mounted his attack, drawing Neil Hodgson's Kawasaki with him. Hodgson paid dearly for his enthusiasm on the 19th lap as the bike sawsawed from under him, leaving the Briton in a gravel trap.

As the race moved to its close, Edwards and Slight extended their lead, while Russell brushed aside Whitham. To further emphasise the Honda's superiority, Slight set a lap record on the 19th lap, later bettered in the second race by Whitham.

The day, however, belonged to Fogarty and the showman's last act before climbing on to the podium after the second race was to hurl his helmet, gloves and boots into an ecstatic crowd.

If that should prove Fogarty's final act at a British circuit then it remains a popular gesture typical of a racer who prizes winning races above all else.

Katja Ponsgen has become the first woman to win an international motorcycling title. The 21-year-old German took the Supersport Cup with two races to spare at Brands Hatch yesterday, finishing second on a 750cc Suzuki to clinch the title, after the only two men who could still catch her both retired.

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EXTRA COVER

Wraps are coming off Mascarenhas

IF YOU attempted to peel away the layers from Dimitri Mascarenhas early in the season it would probably take you longer than you might think. He may have been born in Hampshire 20 years ago, but his Sri Lankan parents, Malik and Pauline, emigrated to Australia soon after and young Dimitri was brought up in a land of seemingly endless sunshine. When he first arrived in Hampshire two years ago it was something of a culture shock.

"The thing I miss most when I am over here is the weather," confesses Mascarenhas. "I hate the cold. I really struggle in it. The first couple of months this season was just a nightmare for me. April and May were just the worst. I couldn't stand it. I just didn't feel like doing anything at all."

"I wear loads of layers over here. I had a T-shirt, a long-sleeved shirt, a thin sweater, a short-sleeved sweater and a long-sleeved sweater, and I wore them all



MAN IN THE MIDDLE
DIMITRI MASCARENHAS
(Hampshire)

the time until the end of May. And under my trousers I wore thermal cycle shorts. And I still felt cold."

Mascarenhas is an engaging person, wrapped up in cricket, golf and Aussie Rules. He comes from the laid-back school, similar in many ways to his good friend Ben Hollis, the pair having played for the same club Melville, in Perth at one time. The all-rounder has a sunny disposition and adopts the same approach with his batting.

His brilliant innings,

though only a modest 29 in Hampshire's annihilation of Middlesex last week in the NatWest Trophy occupied just a dozen balls in which he hit a couple of sixes and three fours. "I like to play my natural game with the bat," he said. "If the ball is there to hit I will try to hit it. If it doesn't come off, so be it."

His bowling is different. You sense that he takes that a little more seriously. "I regard myself as an all-rounder," says Mascarenhas, who has ambitions of playing for England. "Well, I think I am getting there, but there is still a lot of work to be done. Since I joined Hampshire, Malcolm Marshall, Tim Tremlett and Cardigan Connor have all helped me with my bowling. I think I am more consistent now, bowling a better line and length and I am also a lot stronger."

He has been taking wickets and getting runs. He may feel the cold, but Hampshire have a hot property coming through.

ECHOES OF THE PAST

DAVID LLOYD AND MICHAEL ATHERTON

What can they possibly have in common? For a start they are both opening batsmen.

So are a lot of other people. Yes, but they have both opened the innings for Lancashire and for England.

But wasn't Lloyd a left-handed batsman, whereas Atherton, surely, is right-handed? Funny you should mention that. Yes that is so. But both men portray the same character. They are kindred spirits. And they are inextricably linked by a number of factors. Professionally Lloyd is England coach. They were born in Lancashire and they are firm friends. They go fly fishing together.

Right. That's interesting. But I thought Lloyd was undone by a woman... someone called Lillian Thomson. Wasn't that so? A very good effort. Unfortunately it was not a woman at all, but rather two men.

What, a transsexual schizophrenic?

No, no, no! It was Lillie and Thomson, Dennis and Jeff respectively, the Australian fast bowling duo. Back in 1974 Lloyd was a fresh-faced stripling who has already made his mark in Test cricket with a double hundred against India that summer. England, led by Mike Denness, travelled Down Under and were given the mother and father of a blasting by Lillie and Thomson. Lloyd played in the last four of the five-Test series and unfortunately did not cut the mustard.

So did Lloyd have an enduring Test career? Not quite.

How many Tests did he play, then? Just the nine.

Whereas Atherton has played more than 80. Precisely. But they have fast bowling in common, whereas Lillie and Thomson proved too much for "Bumble" Lloyd, wrecking his confidence and his career. Atherton positively thrives on the stuff and the more they send down at him the better he likes it.

And what exactly did England miss by not picking Lloyd again?

A brave close fielder. An attractive left-handed batsman with an ideal temperament, who could bat down the order and used his feet well against spin. He eventually became an umpire for a season before turning to coaching and the development of the game in schools.

Will Atherton follow suit after his Test career? Unlikely. He has his sights set on a career in the media. And it also most improbable that he will follow Lloyd on to the after dinner speaking circuit, where the England coach is an absolute wow.

Leicestershire ready to move

LEICESTERSHIRE look ready to make a serious move for the Championship leadership this week. Somerset visit them at Grace Road and, despite the fact that Peter Bowler's side have undergone something of a resurgence of late, they do not look to have the wherewithal to stop what is turning out to be one of the best all-round teams of the season.

And with Leicestershire's closest rivals, Gloucestershire and Lancashire doing battle at Old Trafford there will have been a definitive

THE WEEK AHEAD

sorting out by the end of this particular round of matches. Surrey begin their Championship match a day late and there is a little doubt that they will want revenge for the humiliation of their NatWest exit at the hands of Dominic Cork's men last week.

Of course a crucial factor in all three fixtures is the absence of the England players. Cork will be missing for Derbyshire, Alec Stewart Ian Salisbury and Mark Butcher for Surrey.

And, of course, Graham Thorpe is out of the picture following his back operation. Lancashire will be without Mike Atherton and Leicestershire minus Alan Mullally.

At the other end of the table Essex entertain Glamorgan hoping to end a sequence of two defeats in the last two seasons. Middlesex and Warwickshire will be able to cry on each other's shoulders. The two troubled clubs clash at Lord's and will continue the struggle to shake off mid-table anonymity.

INS AND OUTS

HIGH ROLLERS		RUN MACHINES		HITTING THE STUMPS	
Loye (Northamptonshire)	322*	(Most individual centuries)		Walsh (Gloucestershire)	28
Gazing (Middlesex)	241	Hick (Worcestershire)	6	Giddings (Warwickshire)	26
Langer (Middlesex)	233*	Langer (Middlesex)	5	Betts (Durham)	20
James (Glamorgan)	227	Crawley (Lancashire)	5	Giles (Warwickshire)	20
Ripley (Northamptonshire)	209	Adams (Sussex)	5	Leary (Sussex)	20
Fulton (Kent)	207	Hooper (Kent)	4	Caddick (Somerset)	19
Hooper (Kent)	203	Knight (Warwickshire)	4	Thomas (Glamorgan)	19
Habib (Leicestershire)	198	Loye (Northamptonshire)	4	Mullally (Leicestershire)	19
Knight (Warwickshire)	192	Lehmann (Yorkshire)	4	Wesim Akram (Lancashire)	18
Slater (Derbyshire)	185	Maddy (Leicestershire)	4	Fleming (Kent)	17
NERVOUS MINUTES		DUCK HUNTERS		TOP GLOVES	
Leatherdale (Worcestershire)	99	Betts (Durham)	9	Blaney (Yorkshire)	65
Lehmann (Yorkshire)	99	Stephenson (Hampshire)	9	Russell (Gloucestershire)	59
Maynard (Glamorgan)	99	Maddy (Leicestershire)	9	Speight (Durham)	58
Tescombe (Somerset)	99	White (Hampshire)	9	Nhan (Leicestershire)	57
Langer (Middlesex)	97	Robinson (Essex)	6	Aymes (Hampshire)	48
K Newell (Sussex)	97	Robinson (Sussex)	6	Brown (Middlesex)	46
Stewart (Surrey)	97	Rose (Northamptonshire)	6	Stewart (Surrey)	45
Bevan (Sussex)	96	Shah (Middlesex)	6	Rhodes (Worcestershire)	44
Cotter (Glamorgan)	96	Smith (Warwickshire)	6	Hogg (Leicestershire)	41
Fulton (Kent)	96	Amerston (Lancashire)	5	Marsh (Kent)	41
Peirce (Sussex)	96				

EDITED BY DAVID LLEWELLYN

OUT NOW!



Want to know what's REALLY going on in Italian football? Then make sure you get FOOTBALL ITALIA, the official Channel 4 monthly magazine. With the latest issue including a comprehensive review of the World Cup Finals and the subsequent developments in the Italian camp, it's essential reading for all fans of Italian football!

Heyns' record time tainted by red tape

GOODWILL GAMES
By JOHN MEHAFFEY
in New York

THE DOUBLE Olympic champion, Penny Heyns, set a world 50 metres breaststroke record en route to winning the 100m at the Goodwill Games on Saturday but was then unable to claim a \$50,000 (£30,000) bonus.

Heyns, of South Africa, swimming for the World team against the United States, clocked 30.95sec at the 50m mark, bettering the previous best of 31.58 set by the East German Silke Horner 10 years ago.

Last January, the sport's world governing body, Fina, approved world records in the 50m backstroke, 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly. Previously they had been recognised as world bests. Heyns, though, found to her chagrin that she was ineligible for the \$50,000 bonus awarded for world records at the Games because the 50m breaststroke was not one of the listed events.

"All I know is there was no fine print," said Heyns. "It said a world record equals \$50,000, so I went for the record. It

would have been nice if I was eligible for it."

Games officials hastily conferred and later issued a statement saying they would award Heyns \$10,000. "Bonus money for swimming world records set during the Goodwill Games are for officially contested events on our sports menu," the statement said. "Of the 14 official events contested in the swimming competition, the 50m breaststroke is not one of them. This does not diminish in any way her superlative effort."

Less than half an hour after breaking the record, Heyns was in the pool again to win the 200m breaststroke in 2min 26.73sec as the World team overpowered China 86-35.

The United States, led by the five-times Olympic champion, Jenny Thompson, and Cristina Teuscher, swept the first six events of the evening and won 10 of the 14 races to beat Germany 78-44 and win the gold medal.

At Madison Square Garden, the Italian Paolo Vidoz provided an upset in the boxing finals by outpointing the bulking Cuban super-heavyweight Alexis Rubalcaba 9-3.

JP 11/1/50

Cronje hints at retaining opener

Durham assaulted by Aymes

wers. Collingwood holing out going for a third six. He had reached his half century in a more sedate 56 balls and hit a total of four 4s. Lewis finished unbeaten on 67 in 57 balls.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

1 0 0 3 3
1 0 0 1 1
15
168
139, 6-142, 7-156, 8-

The Foster's Oak:
Edgborough: Warwick
Vespa/ve Challenge
Lord's: Middlesex v S
Northwest Under-19
Riverside: England U

South Africa 406-5 dec & 27-0
Essex 215
Match dragon

side's top-scorers, while Shaun Pollock was the most successful bowler with 3 for 37.

5

Schumacher trails in Finn's wake

MOTOR RACING

By DERICK ALLSOP
at Hockenheim

THE HUGE red bowl of the stadium fell silent, the message was so devastating. Michael Schumacher's world championship aspirations had crumbled before his own people.

As Schumacher cajoled a reluctant Ferrari to fifth place in yesterday's German Grand Prix here, Mika Hakkinen was leading another formation slaughter by McLaren-Mercedes and opening a 16-point advantage at the top of the hill standings.

The Finn's sixth win of the season, ahead of his team-mate, David Coulthard, could well prove the defining performance of the year. McLaren look as strong as ever, Ferrari again fallible, and even Schumacher may not possess the powers to redress the balance over the remaining five rounds.

The closest threat to the McLaren came from Williams' Jacques Villeneuve, who appeared on the podium for the first time since becoming champion in the final race of last season.

Damon Hill registered his first points for almost a year with fourth place in the Jordan, a result which should strengthen his negotiating position with the team.

Ralf Schumacher completed another good day for the Silverstone organisation with sixth place, his third successive finish in the points. However, his gamble on a two-stop strategy probably cost him a higher position.

Coulthard harboured hopes of a second victory of the season, but overshot at his 41st stop and failed to re-emerge in front of Hakkinen. In the later stages he resisted any temptation to attack his partner, easing the risk was too great and the potential consequences of failure too gruesome to contemplate.

Hakkinen maintained that his passage was far from comfortable, with Coulthard never more than a second from his carbox and his car misbehaving towards the end. He knew so that Villeneuve, starved of impetuous racing and with nothing to lose, was tearing up the deficit.

Eventually, Villeneuve, too, as hindered by a problem, and three front-runners crossed the line with a degree of relief as well as satisfaction. Hakkinen was just 0.4sec clear of Coulthard, who was 2.5sec ahead of Villeneuve.

Hakkinen said: "It was a difficult situation for me near the end because I lost some performance and had to slow down to make sure nothing serious happened. But we made it and it was great for the team to have another one-two."

Coulthard was beaten to the



Mika Hakkinen leads his team-mate David Coulthard as the McLarens claim the first two places in the German Grand Prix at Hockenheim yesterday

first corner by Hakkinen and realised at that moment his only opportunity might come at the pit stop. He said: "Unfortunately I overshot and it cost me perhaps half a second. I never seriously thought of having a go because the risk was too great and the stakes too high."

"I was very uncomfortable towards the end because Mika's car was throwing out oil. It was getting on my gloves, on my mirrors and on my tyres. I wouldn't have made sense to try and overtake him, especially here, with all the Mercedes people looking on. It wouldn't have gone down too well if we'd ended up in the gravel."

"It would feel a lot better if I was at the front, but all the signs are that Mika is going to be world champion. He has driven very well. I just want to do all I can to try and finish second and have something to build on for next season." Hakkinen and Coulthard have been confirmed as McLaren's drivers for next season and the teamwork produced here looks capable of enduring.

Villeneuve was grateful to have them in his sights and then frustrated that he was unable to mix it with them. The

Canadian said: "It's great to be on the podium again and really competing. But I had a problem near the end so I wasn't

able to put any pressure on the McLarens." Hill was just gratified to play a meaningful role in proceedings after an often tortuous season with Jordan. Ralf Schumacher's misplaced faith in two stops handed Hill the re-

sponsibility of leading the Jordan cause and he accepted it, keeping Schumacher Snr at bay in the process.

Hill said: "This is more like the races I have been used to. The team did a fantastic job and it was great to be able to hold off Michael, who at one stage was catching up worryingly fast. But there is nothing like the inspiration of wanting to hold on to fourth place to keep you going."

Schumacher Snr remains hopeful he can catch Hakkinen, but yesterday he was subdued and contrite. He said: "I am sorry I was unable to do better in front of my home crowd. But after being off the pace all weekend I couldn't expect a miracle. My main problem was lack of grip. It was difficult to keep the car on the road."

His team-mate, Eddie Irvine, experienced similar difficulties making three unscheduled excursions before coming in a travel-weary eighth. Johnny Herbert pulled up his broken Sauber eight laps from the end.

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GERMAN GRAND PRIX
Race distance 45 laps, 307.035km
1 Mika Hakkinen (Fin) McLaren-Mercedes +31.035s
2 David Coulthard (GB) McLaren-Mercedes +42.75s
3 Jacques Villeneuve (Can) Williams-Mecachrome +42.75s
4 Damon Hill (GB) Jordan-Mugen-Honda +7.165s
5 Michael Schumacher (Ger) Ferrari +12.613s
6 Ralf Schumacher (Ger) Jordan-Mugen-Honda +29.733s
7 G. Fisichella (It) Benetton-Playlife +31.027s
8 E. Irvine (GB) Benetton-Playlife +31.027s
9 H-H. Frentzen (Ger) Williams-Mecachrome +32.785s
10 A. Wurz (Aut) Benetton-Playlife +57.592s
11 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
12 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
13 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
14 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
15 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
16 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
17 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
18 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
19 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s
20 J. Herbert (GB) Sauber-Petronas +1:01.110s

Drivers' championship	Australian GP	Brazilian GP	Argentine GP	San Marino GP	Spanish GP	Mexican GP	Canadian GP	French GP	British GP	Austrian GP	German GP	Hungarian GP	Belgian GP	Dutch GP	Italian GP	Japanese GP	Pts
1 M Hakkinen (Fin)	10	10	6	10	10	4	6	10	10								76
2 M Schumacher (Ger)	4	10	6	4	10	10	10	4	2								60
3 D Coulthard (GB)	6	6	1	10	6	4	1	1	6	6							42
4 E Irvine (GB)	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3								32
5 A Wurz (Aut)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3								17
6 J Villeneuve (Can)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								16
7 G Fisichella (It)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								15
8 H-H Frentzen (Ger)	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								8
9 R Barrichello (Br)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								4
R Schumacher (Ger)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								4
11 J Alesi (Fr)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								3
M Salo (Fin)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								3
D Hill (GB)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2								3
14 J Herbert (GB)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								1
P Diniz (Bra)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								1
J Magnussen (Den)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1								1

Battling Black bows out on wave of emotion

ATHLETICS

ADAM SZRETER
Sheffield

GER BLACK bade farewell to his athletic career at the Don Valley Stadium last night when, on an emotional night, he gave a typically batwing performance in the men's 100m. In the final race of the evening he had to settle for third place behind Britain's top quarter-milers, Mark Richardson, who won in 05sec, and Iwan Thomas. Members of Black's family, including his mother, were among a crowd of around 10,000 who turned out on a day of rare summer sunshine to witness the farewell appearance of the multiple silver medalist and former European champion, well as to enjoy the rest of the best that British athletics has to offer these days.

The expected battle royal between Britain's Paula Radcliffe and Ireland's Sonia O'Sullivan in the women's 3,000m did not materialise as Radcliffe stroked the field with a fast display of fronting, breaking Mary Coker-Stanley's seven-year-old record to win by the length of the home straight in a time of 8:38.84.

"I don't know exactly how far in front I was and I don't know what happened to Sonia," Radcliffe said. "One minute she was there and the next she was gone. I didn't kick so I can't explain it. I guess she's having a bit of an up and down time at the moment but it's got to be a psychological boost going into the Europeans whatever she decides to run."

"I'm a bit disappointed that I slowed up towards the end because I really thought I was in shape to run a personal best. But I'm still coming down a bit from altitude training so I can't complain too much."

Colin Jackson was beaten over the high hurdles again by Americans. Reggie Torian won in 13.15 and the world champion Allen Johnson was second in 13.22. Jackson, in 13.24, just held off the challenge of another Mark Crear, to take third but it was not the sort of performance the world record holder would have been looking for so close to a major championship.

The women's 400m provided an exciting curtain-raiser to the evening, with the British champion, Allison Curbishley, who plans to turn to the 400m hurdles in the winter, making all the running before being pipped on the line by Pauline Davis, the world bronze medalist from

the Bahamas. Another Briton, Donna Fraser, was third.

Blessed by the weather, the organisers tried everything from sultry jazz at the start of the evening to constant appeals for crowd participation wherever possible in order to generate the kind of atmosphere found at some of the other European Grand Prix meetings.

To a great extent it worked, with the Britons Jonathan Edwards in the triple jump and Janine Whitlock in the pole vault having their every attempt greeted by an enormous roar. Whitlock and Emma George, the Australian world record holder, both cleared 4.22m but were beaten on countback by Germany's Nastja Rysch.

Edwards duly won his event, but the sore ankle he has struggled with all summer meant that he was a long way short of his best with 17.14m. "The redeeming factor was that I won," he said. "I am at a loss as to why I jumped so badly so I just want to erase it from my memory and get on with the next competition, subject to my ankle feeling okay."

Steve Backley was also on top form, winning the men's javelin with 88.80m, beating the world champion Marius Corbett among others, while in the men's 200m Scotland's



David Parker, of Great Britain, on his way to a gold medal in the javelin at the Junior World Athletics Championships in Annecy yesterday

Dougie Walker, a metre down on Darren Campbell coming off the bend, closed the gap to win in 20.38 with the Englishman having to settle for a personal best. In the women's 200m Katherine Merry finished a disappointing fourth.

The men's 800m was won in impressive style by the Moroccan Mahjoub Haida in 1min 45.03sec, while the world 400m hurdles champion, France's Stephane Diagana, showed a

welcome return to form with victory in 48.70. Paul Gray, one of Linford Christie's protégés, set a Welsh record of 49.76.

Kenya's Paul Tergat, who will run in Brussels at the end of the month when he hopes to regain the world 10,000m record he once held, won the men's 3,000m in 7:39.50, while the women's 100m hurdles went to Melissa Morrison, of the United States, in 12.74.

Dwaine Chambers took the

men's 100m in 10.24 from fellow Briton Marlon Devonish, whose second place was enough to assure him of the overall prize of \$10,000 for the three-race Nivea Men's Challenge that has been running at various meetings throughout the summer.

The Emsley Carr Mile was won by another Kenyan, Lehan Rotich, in 3:51.74, beating Britain's John Maycock and Anthony Whiteman into second and third respectively.

Golden haul for Britain's junior class

By PETER MARTIN
in Annecy

A JAVELIN thrower who two weeks ago could not walk, and a sprint hurdler who crashed out of her last major final, yesterday added two golds to the British team's medal haul here, making it the most successful World Junior Championships for Britain since the days when Colin Jackson was a lad.

It was, of course, the contribution of two gold medals by Christian Malcolm - like Jackson a phenomenally talented sprinter from south Wales - which formed the foundation of Britain's successes. But Malcolm's victories, including the 200 metres on Saturday in a British junior record 20.44sec, were widely expected.

Given the traumas suffered by the 19-year-olds Julie Pratt and David Parker, their golden moments yesterday were true triumphs over adversity. Parker is the first British man to win the javelin at a world championship. Even Steve Backley only ever won a silver medal at the World Juniors, though Backley has been among those to help Parker towards this success.

When Parker injured knee ligaments last month, only physiotherapists could help. But he was nearly denied his chance on Friday, when as he was warming up, he was balked by an official, causing him to twist his already fragile knee.

More treatment was needed so that he could throw yesterday. With heavy strapping, and despite driving rain, the big Yorkshireman launched his spear 72.85 metres in the first round. "I knew I had to get a good throw in early to put pressure on the others. They didn't handle the conditions so well, but I was biting my nails during the final round," Parker said.

For Pratt, winner of yesterday's 100m hurdles, the rehabilitation process began a year ago, after she crashed into the last barrier when leading in the European Junior Championships final. "It was like when a child falls off a bike," her coach, Ian Grant, said. "You've just got to get straight back on."

Yesterday, Pratt was rated as having an outsider's chance behind Hongwei Sun, of China, and three other faster women. But for Pratt, the rain and cold were less of a hindrance than for her rivals. Like Sally Gunnell, a member of the Essex Ladies club, Pratt said: "After the last hurdle I just closed my eyes and went for the line. I didn't realise I'd won until I heard the announcement."

With two bronzes on Saturday from Sarah Willems in the 200m and Carl Myerscough in the shot, the British class of '98 passed their finals with distinction - only China and Russia finished above Britain in the final medals table.

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JP 11/10/50

Hamilton inspires Hearts

FOOTBALL
BY DAVID MCKINNEY

Heart of Midlothian
Rangers

THE NEW Scottish Premier League lived up to its billing on the first Sunday night action of the season. We were promised something different with the new regime and that is what we got, with Hearts claiming victory against one of the Glasgow clubs, a feat they failed to achieve in last season's League campaign.

The last meeting of these two clubs saw Hearts win the Tennants Scottish Cup final and in similar vein Rangers had most of the game yesterday, but Hearts took the glory.

Hearts wasted little time on formalities far less showing deference towards Rangers' summer collection of players. The increased confidence from that Scottish Cup win was immediately apparent and within five minutes the home side had taken the lead.

Jim Hamilton found Neil McCann on the right and, although his low cross appeared to carry little danger, the Rangers defence was missing as the ball fell to the feet of Stéphane Adam, who prodded it over the line from close range.

Rangers were in trouble again seven minutes later when a long ball by Gary Locke freed Adam beyond the visitors, defence, but a poor second touch allowed the ball to run to Antti Niemi, the Rangers goalkeeper.

Those early lapses stirred Rangers slightly but, despite some pretty midfield passing movements, there was no real penetration against a determined Hearts defence. Jörg Albertz was operating on the left and Rod Wallace on the right, with Gordon Durie in the middle. However, the closest they came in that opening period was a diagonal shot across the goal mouth from Albertz.

Slackness in the Rangers defence allowed Hearts the opportunity to increase their lead in the 20th minute. Jonas Thern lost possession at the edge of the penalty area, the ball roached Hamilton, who side-stepped a challenge and shot into the corner of the net. Within seconds of that second goal, Niemi was called into spectacular action to prevent his side being further behind. His first save was excellent, as he dived to his left to push out a shot from Hamilton and he retained his



Rangers' Rod Wallace (right) is challenged by Stefano Salvatori, of Hearts, during last night's match at Tynecastle

Allsport

possession to deal with a return shot by Adam. Seven minutes later, Rangers forced themselves back into the game, but in bizarre circumstances. Giovanni Van Bronckhorst aimed a shot from the edge of the area but screwed the ball wide. Fortunately for Rangers, the

ball fell into the path of Wallace, whose first time shot found the far corner of the net. Still the defensive lapses continued at the other end, Craig Moore being caught in possession in similar fashion to Thern but Niemi produced a brave save to deny McCann. Rangers attempted to seize

the initiative by replacing Thern with Andrei Kanchelskis at the interval and were able to move forward against a Hearts side that appeared increasingly content to stand their ground defensively. The early chances in the second period fell to Rangers, who were by now finding some of the

fluency that had been missing in the first 45 minutes. Durie shot wide, Wallace attempted an overhead kick and a Kanchelskis cross was left by Wallace but there were no takers. In the 65th minute, Rangers made another change by bringing on Gabriel Amato, their Argentinian striker, in the hope

that he would put himself on the end of their moves, but to no avail. Hearts (4-4-2): Rossiter; Locke, Weir, Ritchie, Maynard; Floer, Salvatori, Fulton, McCann; Adam (Marley, 55). Hearts substitutes not used: McCann, Callaghan, Holmes, Milne. Rangers (5-4-1): Niemi; Salisu, Moore, Thern, Munn, Wallace; Thern (Kanchelskis, 46); Ferguson, Van Bronckhorst (Amato, 55), Albertz; Durie. Substitutes not used: Vidmar, Nicholson, Brown. Referee: H Dallas (Motherwell).

Burley puts priority on European campaign

BY SIMON BUCKLAND

CRAG BURLEY, the toast of Scotland last season, slipped straight into top gear with a hat-trick in Celtic's first League game of the season, but said Europe should take precedence in the short-term.

The Scotland midfielder's first treble was augmented by

goals from Simon Donnelly and Malky Mackay as Dunfermline were brushed aside 5-0 in front of more than 50,000 fans at Parkhead on Saturday to give Celtic's new coach, Josef Venglos, the start he would have wanted.

But Burley warned against subjecting all the first team to Celtic's next two games. Before taking on Croatia Zagreb in a

Champions' League qualifying tie, Celtic play friendly matches against Liverpool and Bolton. "It isn't ideal to be playing friendlies before a European game but hopefully we will share out the load," he said. "Selling our legs for Europe is the most important thing at this stage because I am sure playing Liverpool in a friendly will

probably be a stiffer test than we had today." Kilmarnock, also involved in European competition, shrugged off a bright start by Dundee United, in which Roger Boli twice had goals disallowed, and ran out 2-0 winners, with an opportunistic goal by Paul Wright and a fine chip by Pat Nevin. Aberdeen disposed of the

challenge posed by promoted Dundee, winning 2-0 at Dens Park, but Craig Hignett, the star of the show on his debut, said the Dons are some way from the kind of side their manager, Alex Miller, will want to fashion. A fluent, promising display turned on a few minutes midway through the first half when Eoin Jess and Hignett scored.

Hignett said: "We have quality throughout the team, but we just need a bit more consistency - there is a long way to go." Motherwell had one of their many debutants, Jerrod Stirling, to thank for a 1-0 win over St Johnstone. They were helped by the dismissal of St Johnstone's Paul Kane on the half-hour after a clash with Jan Michels.

Newcastle prevail but worst fears confirmed

BY SCOTT BARNES

Middlesbrough
Newcastle
Newcastle win 4-3 on pens

IN THE North-east, where football courses through the veins like Newcastle Brown on a Saturday night, only a couple of thousand bothered to turn out to see the region's top players contest the third place of the JD Sports Cup, having been denied a place in the final by Portuguese and Italian teams which are considered quite ordinary in their own land.

Eventually Newcastle won on penalties which was a rather tough on Middles-

brough, who had at least managed to score one goal from open play in their two games. Both managers, though, say that they have learned lessons, but they appear to have had worst fears mostly confirmed rather than unexpected bonuses.

Newcastle's best moment of the first half came in the second minute when Shearer provided a classic headed knock-down for Stephen Glass to volley a 40-yard pass into the path of Paul Dalglish.

Signed from Aberdeen as a wing-back, he moved the ball swiftly and sensibly and in tight midfield areas and when he ran into the penalty area to reach

Dalglish's return pass he also showed a surprising turn of pace. But that was in the 15th minute and Glass faded as Middlesbrough stepped up a gear. In the 19th minute, Neil Maddison created an opening for Paul Gascoigne, who was retired at half-time with a slight strain. Maddison lifted the ball over a dreadfully static defence but Gascoigne side-footed wide from the edge of the area.

This was the first of the Newcastle rearguard's many questionable moments. In the 28th minute, Paul Merson drifted in an innocuous cross, which Alessandro Pistone allowed to bounce, and Robbie Mustoe steered home from a couple of yards.

Newcastle's defence degenerated so much in the second half that Steve Howey and Philippe Albert headed each other and then Pistone tackled Howey. Laurent Charvet, a solid Frenchman, was sent on to prevent further embarrassment. Not that Middlesbrough could boast much, as they will start the season without Gary Pallister, Gianluca Festa and Steve Vickers. Dean Gordon, an £800,000 signing from Crystal Palace, worryingly presented the ball to Shearer but at least his partner, Curtis Fleming, was steadfast enough to hold up the England Captain.

But Fleming blotted his copy book in the 50th minute when Dalglish robbed him on the right as he naively bundled him over in the area. Shearer's penalty was not his usual blast but a girlish tickle over the diving Marlon Beresford.

The equaliser consigned the game to drift into the shoot-out where Middlesbrough's two misses handed Newcastle the victory. In the final Benfica defeated Empoli 7-6 on penalties after the game finished 1-1.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Arsenal 1, Manchester United 1; Liverpool 1, Tottenham 1; Chelsea 1, Wimbledon 1; Blackburn 1, Middlesbrough 1; Newcastle 1, Leeds 1; Manchester City 1, Bolton 1; West Ham 1, Charlton 1; Queens Park Rangers 1, Reading 1; Luton 1, Sheffield Wednesday 1; Nottm Forest 1, Derby 1; Millwall 1, Barnsley 1; Bury 1, Wigan 1; Huddersfield 1, Preston 1; Blackpool 1, Sheff Wed 1; Ipswich 1, Charlton 1; Norwich 1, Middlesbrough 1; Wimbledon 1, Luton 1; Manchester City 1, Bolton 1; West Ham 1, Charlton 1; Queens Park Rangers 1, Reading 1; Luton 1, Sheffield Wednesday 1; Nottm Forest 1, Derby 1; Millwall 1, Barnsley 1; Bury 1, Wigan 1; Huddersfield 1, Preston 1; Blackpool 1, Sheff Wed 1; Ipswich 1, Charlton 1; Norwich 1, Middlesbrough 1; Wimbledon 1, Luton 1; Manchester City 1, Bolton 1; West Ham 1, Charlton 1; Queens Park Rangers 1, Reading 1; Luton 1, Sheffield Wednesday 1; Nottm Forest 1, Derby 1; Millwall 1, Barnsley 1; Bury 1, Wigan 1; Huddersfield 1, Preston 1; Blackpool 1, Sheff Wed 1; 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SPORT



BOWE'S FALL FROM GRACE P18 • HAKKINEN STIFLES SCHUMACHER P24

Tour de France: Italy celebrates first victory for 33 years as 'Il Pirata' follows the trail of a legendary compatriot

'Clean' race brings joy for Pantani

BY ROBIN NICHOLL
in Paris

THE MOST controversial race in Tour de France history ended on the Champs-Élysées here yesterday with the winner proclaiming it the "cleanest" race.

After three weeks dominated by a drugs scandal which at one stage threatened to force the cancellation of the event, Marco Pantani rode across the finishing line to give Italy its first winner for 33 years.

"I may have won the cleanest Tour," he said, referring to the crisis that has brought arrests and confessions of drug-taking as French justice clamped down on doping. "Because of the fear of police this undoubtedly has been a 'clean' race."

"This Tour was more difficult because of the doping. We had a lot of psychological problems, and we were all very nervous. There is nothing so difficult as cycling every day for three weeks."

Any lasting doubts as to whether the French public had become disenchanted with

their most celebrated sporting event were dispelled as a crowd estimated at around 300,000 turned out on a rainy afternoon to welcome home the 96 finishers. Only half of the starting line-up made it to the finish after six teams dropped out because of the doping investigation by French magistrates and police.

After 3,711 kilometres racing across France, over the Pyrenees and the Alps, it was Pantani who claimed victory. The little Italian, who experienced a minor drama on the Champs-Élysées yesterday when he suffered a puncture, beat last year's winner, Jan Ullrich of Germany, by 2min 21sec. The American Bobby Julich was third, more than four minutes behind. Belgium's Tom Steels took the final stage here, with the Italian Stefano Zanini second and Stuart O'Grady of Australia third.

Eight weeks ago Pantani had been fêted in pink, the colours of the Giro d'Italia victor, in Milan's Parco Sempione.

"I decided to race both tours with the idea of winning one. I

never thought of both," the shaven-headed racer said. "In the Giro I wasted a lot of energy, but I came to the Tour relaxed and I raced in a more intelligent manner."

Pantani, who is the first Italian in 46 years to win the Tour de France and the Giro d'Italia in the same year, has already been offered a three-year contract worth 1,000,000 French francs (about £105,000) a month by another Italian team, Mapei.

Pantani's celebrations, however, were tinged with regret because Luciano Pezzi was not there to share in his great moment. The president of Pantani's Mercatone Uno team died two weeks before the Tour opened in Dublin. "It was my dream to take the yellow jersey, and Pezzi told me that I had the characteristics to achieve it," Pantani said. "If only he could be here I would be so happy."

Pezzi was a teammate of Fausto Coppi when the latter completed his second Tour-Giro double in 1952. Thirteen years later Pezzi was the team manager who gave a last-minute Tour place to Felice Gimondi, who then became the last Italian to win the Tour.

Pezzi recognised in Pantani the same fire and desire that had made Coppi the Champion of Champions (Il Campionissimo). He offered him a contract as Pantani sat out a whole season with a broken left leg and not much hope.

His faith in the broken athlete has been repaid, and Italy is reliving the legend. Yesterday Pantani, whose headband, earring and beard had earned him the nickname of Il Pirata, boarded the Paris podium to don the winner's yellow jersey



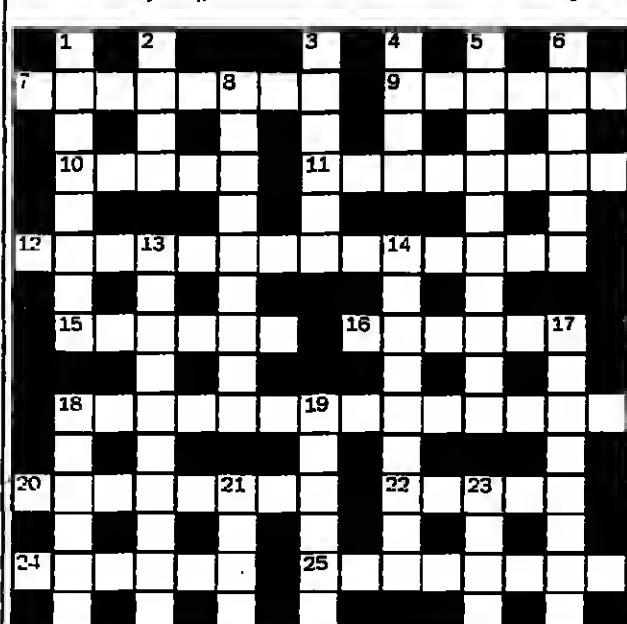
Marco Pantani (front) races past the Arc de Triomphe on his way to overall victory on the final stage of the Tour de France yesterday. AP

RESULTS AND STANDINGS	
FINAL STANDINGS (after 20 stages, 3,711 km)	
1 Marco Pantani (It) Mercatone Uno	92hr 43min 46sec
2 Jan Ullrich (Ger) Telekom	+3:21
3 Bobby Julich (US) Colidis	+4:08
4 F. Pinot (Fr) Cofidis	+9:16
5 M. Boogerd (Neth) Rabobank	+11:26
6 J. C. Roben (Fr) US Postal	+14:57
7 R. Meier (Swi) Colidis	+15:13
8 D. Nardello (It) Mapei	+16:07
9 G. di Grande (It) Mapei	+17:35
10 A. Mørkøv (Den) Polti	+17:35
11 B. Rasmussen (Den) Telekom	+18:10
12 D. Baranowski (Pol) US Postal	+19:58
13 S. Houteket (Fr) FDJ	+20:37
14 L. Pospisil (Cz) Sacco	+21:45
15 B. Hammer (Den) Casino	+26:39
16 K. van de Walle (Bel) Lotto	+27:20
17 K. Livingston (US) Colidis	+34:03
18 J. Jaksche (Ger) Polti	+35:41
19 P. Farazijn (Bel) Lotto	+36:10
20 A. Teterovsk (Kazak) Lotto	+37:03

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3679, Monday 3 August

By Portia



ACROSS

7 I'm no help translating religious book (8)

9 Three quarters drop out to get room for manoeuvre (6)

10 Theatrical guy's good to fill in (5)

11 We hear it's relevant to girl (8)

12 Have left potholes scrambling about everywhere (3, 4, 3, 4)

15 Told to move to another place, say (6)

16 Answer ring about money for fund-raising venture (6)

18 Typical of a lawyer (14)

20 About to put in bundled weight of material (8)

DOWN

1 Artist who sounds happy at his work? (8)

2 Island's engaged in a hotel battle (4)

3 Reckon to be upset about German champion (6)

4 Short description of a book that's obscure (4)

5 Impartiality shown by military body (10)

6 Whip over to pinch aromatic plant (6)

8 Scurry away in pursuit of tree insect (3-6)

13 Work for residency (10)

14 Emigre has no right to hold forth (9)

17 As it happens burnout's hard to accept (4, 4)

18 Hardly ever count on artillery upfront (6)

19 Screen that's on the blink? (6)

21 Bags of curtaining (4)

23 Initially reduce present energy cost (4)

Super League clubs could be expelled

FOOTBALL

KETH WISEMAN, the Football Association chairman, has dismissed the proposed European Super League as "Harlem Globetrotters stuff" and warned that competing clubs could be kicked out of their domestic tournaments.

Wiseman's warning comes as the Premiership authorities claim they have been kept in the dark by the proposals, which they oppose.

Wiseman, also a board member at Southampton, said: "It's very important for the established order of national associations to remain intact as the effective overall governing body of the game."

"This suggested league is

unsanctioned football and if it came into existence I think clubs and players might well find themselves excluded from a whole world of sanctioned football."

Wiseman also believes that, apart from the effects the proposed league would have on the domestic game, it would be a flop.

"I think they'd be making a considerable mistake. I don't think the fan in this country would have the slightest interest in what would be exhibition games. It would be Harlem Globetrotters stuff."

"With no promotion or relegation people tire of it; it's maybe interesting for a year but it would fade away."

Opposition to the proposals

is gathering momentum among the top Premiership managers, with Alex Ferguson saying: "The English league must not be broken up."

"When you assess English football, with all the traditional teams and the great matches you can get, is there anybody who really wants it changed?"

Fans still talk about our great nights with Juventus and Borussia Dortmund, but would they talk about so much if they played these teams every week?" Ferguson said.

West Ham's managing director Peter Storer said the Super League would "not do our club, any other club or football generally any good whatsoever," while Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle

manager, added: "How can it be a league if there is no relegation or promotion?"

Wim Jonk will become Danny Wilson's first signing as Sheffield Wednesday manager today when the midfielder completes his move for £2.5m.

The 31-year-old, a key member of the Dutch France 98 squad, has agreed personal terms with the club and will sign a three-year deal.

"I've a very good feeling about joining Sheffield Wednesday and playing in the Premiership," he said.

"I'm very impressed with the club and the management and I'm looking forward to it very much."

More football, page 25



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MONDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



The wild man of DIY

Last week on BBC1's *Changing Rooms*, 12 million people watched this man reduce a woman to tears just by redecorating her dining room. Meet Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, the leather-trousered musketeer of interiors

It's 9.58am at my house, a north London Victorian terrace job that would be disappointingly bog standard were it not for a few clever original touches: the odd missing balustrade; the Premier League stickers adhered everywhere; the lopsided toilet seat given to crashing off if you don't position yourself right; the bathroom cabinet from Ikea which took me four hours to assemble upside down; my six-year-old son's artworks hung up everywhere because I don't have the heart to tell him he is entirely ungifted, and the kitchen floor that doesn't even have the decency to be cork, so is a kind of nasty lino pretending to be cork (circa 1972). Bizarrely, my house has never been featured in *House Beautiful* or *Period Living* or *Wallpaper* or even *Feng Shui*. A

Guide to Modern Living, which is particularly odd, because I like a bit of Chi, especially first thing of a morning with milk and two sugars. Anyway, I need help, I think. And I want help. I want a nice house. I want visitors to say, "What a nice house," instead of, "I seem to have had an accident in the lavatory". So, to this end, Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, star of the BBC's *Changing Rooms*, is coming round! Truly, he is! In fact, he's going to be here in two minutes. TWO MINUTES! Quick, everyone, action stations! Look, I don't care who took the bite from the pear then put it back in the fruit bowl, just GET RID OF IT! Husband, please try and do something about the toilet seat. Son, pick up anything and shove it in a cupboard. Hamster, stop being so smelly, right now, do you hear? Ding

doog. He's here. Oh my God, my panic attack is having a panic attack. Deep breaths, deep breaths. "Hello Laurence. How nice to meet you. Come in. Come in..." So, in he comes. Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen. He's standing in my hall, oow. In his leather trousers, fuchsia velvet smoking jacket, purple shirt with exploding cuffs, and the hair-do that seems to have become quite a high-maintenance celebrity in its own right. "I have to take it to Charles Worthington at least every six weeks, where it's tossed and furled like a salad." He looks quite scary, yes. I think he would probably like to be described as "Byronic" but, overall, the effect is part D'Artagnan and part Dana International. "He's not actually going to do anything, is he?" whispers my husband worriedly. "Is he A GIRL?"



THE DEBORAH ROSS INTERVIEW

my son asks loudly. "Coffee?" I enquire brightly. Into the kitchen. Laurence has come with his assistant, Jonathan. Jonathan's a nice, curly-haired boy in an Oswald Boateng suit. Laurence doesn't just do the telly stuff.

"I do it for real, as well." He has a lot of private clients. He once did Keith Floyd's place. Keith complained that Laurence hadn't antiqued the furniture sufficiently. Laurence said OK, he could use wax or a paint effect to antique it up, but Keith said he had a better idea. "He came back five minutes later with a gun and fired several shots about the room. He smashed a couple of windows, but the furniture looked bloody brilliant!" Anyway, Laurence and Jonathan have dropped in on their way to Finchley, where they are doing up a lottery winner's house. "We're being worked to death," complains Laurence happily. Is interior design the new rock'n'roll? I ask. "I prefer to think of it as the oew chocolate. Not particularly necessary, but indulgent and delicious." Jonathan "sources" things for Laurence. According to

Laurence, this means "poor Jonathan" has to schlepp around shops in Chelsea, "asking to see what they have in corduroy". Poor Jonathan indeed. I sympathise. Laurence is very impressed by the Artexed ceiling in my kitchen. "Have you ever thought of doubling it, and painting it terracotta?" He likes the farmhouse pine kitchen table very much. "So Eighties! What about some motifing?" "I think I might go out," says my husband, a working-class boy who thinks any kind of home improvement that doesn't involve Dralon is an act of class betrayal. "Mummy, is HE A GIRL?" repeats my son. "I think, perhaps, you could both go out," I suggest. "Mummy, why are his TROUSERS so FUNNY? Daddy, aren't his trousers funny?" Out! Now! I decide to make coffee using

my hardly-ever used, stupidly fiddly, total-waste-of-money cappuccinn/ espresso machine (Argos, £34.99). I am in such a dither I forget to put the water in. The whole thing explodes, shooting clods of coffee up the wall. "Nescafe?" I enquire brightly. "Why nnt?" cbrnus Jonathan and Laurence sweetly. The success of *Changing Rooms* has, yes, been entirely spectacular. The current series - Thursdays, 8pm, BBC1 - attracts an average weekly audience of 12 million. The idea is simple. Friends and neighbours radically redecorate rooms in each other's homes with the help of professional designers, on a budget of £500 and a two-day time scale. "By 3pm on day two, everyone gets a paintbrush. We even had the controller of BBC2 at it once."

Continued on page 9

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A little PIMM'S late morning, becoming widespread by the afternoon.



Cancer screening

Sirs: Once again a problem with the cervical cancer screening programme hits the headlines as a "cancer treatment scandal" (*The Independent*, 28 July), yet surely the fact that the problem has been identified and is being dealt with shows that this is not a scandal. The real scandal is that we have such an effective programme of screening for breast and cervical cancer and no screening programmes at all for male specific cancers such as prostate cancer. The NHS now spends nearly 40 per cent more on female health care and prevention than a male health care, and has in its 50 years seen almost a doubling in the difference in female and male life expectancy (despite the virtual elimination of two major causes of male premature deaths - war, and employment in the heavy and extractive industries). The greatest scandal of all is that neither the present nor the previous government programmes for the NHS had any measure to redress the imbalance, while both included measures to improve treatment of these female cancers.

D H SEE
Walsall, Staffordshire

Sir: I should like to point out that a research paper from Copenhagen, in *The Lancet* (5 January, 1985) showed that women aged 40 who had not had measles as children had six times the incidence of cervical cancer when compared with a similar group of women who had had full-blown measles as children.

This research points to the suspicion that immunising children against measles may lead to a large increase in the incidence of cervical cancer in the decades to come (and other serious and chronic illnesses referred to in the same paper), which will make any problems with the cervical cancer screening programme very minor in comparison. Unfortunately, the possible long-term effects on health - of this and other childhood immunisations - just have not been researched properly, no long-term testing having been carried out on any of them!

DR ROBERT BLOMFIELD
Helsdon Bridge, West Yorkshire

Tower blocks

Sir: It is all too obvious to blame architects for tower blocks that fail (*Letters*, 23 July), but this is simplistic and misleading. Much more often than poor design, it is lack of maintenance that causes blocks to decline.

This is recognised in Hackney where the remaining block is to be redecorated, made secure and, most important, given a live-in caretaker.

Properly cared for tower blocks, like the one I rent a flat in, can be pleasant, friendly and convenient places to live. Councils that realise that tower blocks are not a cheap and nasty housing option can take advantage of the fact that changing demographics - more single people, childless people and old people - make them an increasingly appropriate form of housing in towns and cities.

PAMELA WOOLNER
Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Magistrates

Sir: A barrister as distinguished as Sir Anthony Scriven QC is unlikely to have recent personal experience of a magistrate's court, and his remarks (30 July) about these courts and the magistracy bear little relationship to current practice. As a lay magistrate of about 10 years' experience, I find his comments about our relationship with the police incredible. I have never seen any evidence of such closeness. On my bench, women are in a majority; few courts are constituted from members of only one sex, though as a bench has three members, one sex will be in a majority. I cannot understand his remarks about judges and magistrates having a position to maintain.

School holidays

Sir: We refer to your article "School's out - and the fun begins for parents" (*Tuesday Review*, 28 July). It implies that when schools break up for summer, (a) there is no fun for parents and (b) the little darlings have to be constantly occupied from dawn to dusk, regardless of expense.

Judges do not in general decide verdicts. Magistrates, as do juries, decide their cases to the best of their ability on the evidence put before them: their verdicts do not affect their position, whatever that may be.

It would be a pity if these sideswipes against magistrates' courts were allowed to obscure discussion of some important principles. First, he comments on lone male stipendiaries. Not all stipendiary magistrates are male. There is an important question as to whether it is ever right for a single individual to determine guilt after a trial. Secondly, some offences can be heard only in a magistrate's court. Some of these are serious and can result in serious consequences to the reputation and employment prospects of those found guilty. Given that defendants accused of such offences already have no choice of tribunal the Government is talking about moving boundaries rather than introducing a new principle. The question that remains is: where there is a choice of tribunal, who should exercise it?

JOHN HENDERSON
Alton, Hampshire

Sir: Surely the future of the Anglican Communion is assured partly by the fact that, in addition to their mitres, Bishop Holoway and his colleagues are also made of biodegradable materials.

REV CANON
SF BLOXAM-ROSE
Senior Chaplain
Mildfield, Somerset

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post comments to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



In the first of a new series on car boot sales, a couple in Beccles, Norfolk, offer a selection of 'nice quality merchandise'

Brian Harris

We've just had two grandsons staying with us, ages four and six years. It was with some trepidation that we agreed to have them for five days. They have a reputation of being wildly uncontrollable (my daughter's word is "manic") and easily bored. Videos were sent up which I know they have watched ad nauseam at home. These were not looked at, and the purse of pocket money supplied was not opened. Our only expense was two trips to the local swimming pool (£1.25 each for senior citizens and junior, 35p for under-fives).

How did we occupy them? We involved them in our own activities: an afternoon at the

(local) Cromarty regatta, where there was plenty for them to see and do, even if only skipping pebbles on the water (three); a long walk in the rain, closely examining innumerable slugs, and mostly just chatting. They helped weed the drive and had a great time climbing in and out of a large pit we had dug to re-site the clothes prop. This they later filled while carefully retrieving all the worms in the soil and comparing sizes. Strawberries, raspberries and currants in our own garden were all picked with intense concentration and enjoyment.

They had the usual indoor activities with pens and crayons.

They were allowed to "let off steam" with duvets and pillows in their rooms, and the so-called hyperactive six-year-old was sent off on several timed circuits outside the house, constantly trying to beat his own record.

They were rarely shouted at and never smacked, but had lots of cuddles and chat. Each evening they both went to bed tired and slept through till 7am. We were not obliged to change our routine, and still had time to ourselves. When they are older, we shall take them hill walking, sailing or perhaps birdwatching.

A hundred pounds a day at a leisure park? Two senior citizens

certainly could not afford this luxury, and we had a sneaking suspicion that the grandchildren preferred our free, home-made entertainment.

JR & SR KING
Ross-shire

Royal Ulster Constabulary

Sir: After looking at the role of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Members of the British Parliament have decided that in the future those joining the RUC cannot belong to any organisation associated with marching. For this decision to be made the Members of Parliament must have found problems with the RUC's policing during the previous marching season.

More than 95 per cent of the RUC are on the Protestant/Unionist side of the divide. While it is right to address the problem of sectarianism with those wishing to join the RUC in the future, the problem of sectarianism within the established force is still not being addressed. To have a police force that is fair, more radical changes must be made. Membership must be representative of all sections of the community. To achieve this there must be more than just window dressing. The RUC must be disbanded, replaced with a force that is able to gain the trust of all of the people who live in the Six Counties. Theo and only then will understanding and tolerance be achieved.

CHRISTOPHER ARMSTRONG
Address withheld

IN BRIEF

Sir: As we read of the many schemes put forward as means of celebrating the year 2000, there is one that could truly enthuse a new era for this country and reflect the feelings of the British people, and that is a new National Anthem.

At present we are saddled with a 250-year-old song to a monarch, which bears no relation to modern times and makes no mention of our country and its proud history.

The UK is full of talented writers, poets and musicians. Is there anyone out there who would sponsor a contest to produce an anthem for the next thousand years?

WIN MCCURRACH
Kingston on Spey, Morayshire

Sir: Since Judge Goddard has been found by the Court of Appeal to be responsible for the judicial murder of Derek Bentley, would it not be appropriate for his remains now to be disinterred, and reburied in time in the courtyard of Wandsworth prison? He would surely never want a delinquent to escape punishment.

DR W PICKIN
Swansea

Sir: Philip Hensber (24 July) was offended by seeing a picture of Mussolini on a restaurant wall. And quite right too. I was equally offended, and for similar reasons, by Suzanne Moore's use (page 5) of the word "Nazis" to describe interior designers.

DAVID MARKS
London

The fine line that divides hard fact from complete fiction

ALTHOUGH WE are bombarded with news every day, it seems to me that we know very little of it in - indeed, that maybe the more we are bombarded the less we learn. So today I am going to conduct a little experiment. I'm going to present you with a few news stories from the last week or so. One of them is made up by me and is totally false. Which do you think it is?

1. In the wake of Derek Bentley's exoneration, the Home Office has now decided that he was therefore put to death unlawfully and that the charge of murdering Derek Bentley should be brought posthumously against Lord Goddard.

It is very rare to try men for murder after their death, but the Home Office argues that if a man can be pardoned posthumously, as Bentley was, someone else can also be

found guilty posthumously. "We have witnesses who will swear that they heard Lord Goddard shout to the jury: 'Let him have it, boys!'" says a Home Office official. "It's open and shut. And if Lord Goddard is found to be the murderer of Derek Bentley, then we shall go ahead and dig his body up and bang him. It may seem barbaric, but it is what a hanging judge like him would have wanted."

2. Paedophiles in the West Country are to be given preferential treatment over families when it comes to housing allocation, on the grounds that they present a smaller danger to children and society in general than many a British family. "This recent horrific case of family abuse in the West, not to mention the Fred West case, bears out what we have always thought,"

says a West country official, "that more damage is done by the father of the family than by almost any stranger. Not so long ago there were angry crowds in Yeovil protesting against the rehousing of a paedophile. I have never seen angry crowds protesting against family cruelty. This shows that angry crowds don't know what they're chanting about."

3. Bill Clinton says that he intends to tell the absolute truth in front of the Grand Jury. However, he was lying when he said that.

4. A well-known cookery writer has been blackballed by the profession for inventing a country and its cuisine. The writer had published two cookbooks featuring recipes from Manganesia, and had even opened a highly successful Manganesian Café in Hammer-



MILES KINGSTON
Bill Clinton says that he intends to tell the truth. However, he was lying when he said that

smith, featuring a blend of Spanish and African cooking as developed in the ex-Spanish colony of Man-

ganesia. Following the revelation that cookery writer Justin Chambers had only invented the place under desperate pressure from a publisher to set a new cooking fashion, the Manganesian Café has now been booked solid for months ahead.

5. It has been secretly decided by the IOC, according to a leak, that the only way to deal with the drugs scandal in athletics, cycling, etc. is to come clean and have openly drug-assisted events in future.

"There will be two Olympic Games, a Drugs Olympics at which anyone can take anything chemical they like, and a normal Olympics at which only bananas and glucose will be allowed. Similarly, a drug-free Tour de France and an alternative drugged up Tour de France. Or Trip de France,

maybe! Theo the audience can come out in the open and decide which one they prefer. I know which one the drug sponsors will prefer. But the drugs scene was so bad on this year's Tour de France that some competitors were hallucinating very early on and imagining they were riding their bikes round Ireland."

6. The top football teams in the Scottish Premier Division have bought so many Danish, Finnish and Romanian players in the close season that some teams are in danger of taking the field without any Scottish players at all. Teams in the lower half of the division are threatening to sue their richer opponents under the Trades Description Act on the grounds that they are not "Scottish" in any meaningful sense.

7. After resisting for many years the idea of getting together again to write a musical based on the idea of the Beatles getting together again, Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber are getting together again at last to write a musical about the reunion of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

8. Melvyn Bragg was not fired from *Start the Week* because of political beliefs, but because of a memo John Birt wrote five years ago. Tired of constant interference by titled BBC governors, he instituted an immutable rule: "No more peers in the BBC at any level. This is non-negotiable." So Bragg had to go.

Did you spot that the last item was fictitious? Well done! So were all the others, of course - or were they? Who can tell, these days?

JP 11/10/50

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Stop the petty politics and get on with welfare reform

THE PRIME Minister's rubbing of Frank Field in the weekend press was all too predictable. Make no mistake: Tony Blair himself thinks Mr Field, the former Minister for Welfare Reform, is "not best suited to running a department", and that his plans "never took the form of policy capable of being implemented by a government". The words were attributed to the Prime Minister's official spokesman, Alastair Campbell, and were backed up by a long string of cheaper insults: "hollow", "a disgrace", "childish and pathetic". These were attributed to unnamed cabinet ministers who may or may not have included Peter Mandelson and Alastair Darling (who was given the job Mr Field wanted), and would have transmitted their Master's Gist, if not his actual voice.

This kind of pre-emptive strike – or, as it turned out, simultaneous mutual trashing, with Mr Field contributing at least four "exclusive" articles or interviews to the Sunday papers – is neither attractive nor necessary. Mr Field is a proud man who feels he has not been listened to in his own land.

But Mr Blair and those who speak for him should have let Mr Field have his 15 minutes and stuck to the issues instead of the personal insults. The Prime Minister wants to keep his eyes on the big picture, but unfortunately has his firmly locked on the wrong picture – a battle for the loyalty of the Tory press. Mr Field is their Darling, so to speak, and his credibility needs to be undermined. But the ferocity of the attack has been counter-productive. The net effect of Mr Field's resignation and the briefing against him has been to allow the Tory press to crow over the collapse of radical welfare reform.

Mr Blair should have stuck to the real big picture, which is what kind of welfare reform is both desirable and practical. Unfortunately, the Prime Minister helped elevate Mr Field into a symbol of radicalism in the first place. Despite knowing full well – or at least being in a position to know full well – that there was a problem in turning his vision into policy, Mr Blair trumpeted Mr Field's surprise appointment as No 2 in Social Security and, unusually, a privy councillor, as an earnest of his commitment to root-and-branch reform.

It is a poor comment on the state of politics and political reporting that few people could say what the spat between Field and Blair is really about. But Mr Field's views are no secret. There are two things Mr Field is good at, and they are – not by chance – related. He is good at the rhetoric of morality and he is good at self-



promotion. What appealed to Mr Blair and many of his supporters among right-wing commentators was his talk about dependence on state benefits sapping self-reliance, honesty and responsibility. And he was given the chance in opposition, as chairman of the all-party select committee on social security, to work out a detailed blueprint for welfare reform. What is more, he did. No less an authority than the Government Actuary was asked to produce costings for his plan, which was published to deafening silence in October 1996.

Since then, the Conservative newspapers have not carried leading articles demanding compulsory second pensions now. They do not devote pages of analysis to a

massive, state-backed pensions scheme that raises taxes by £3bn a year and transfers money from those earning more than £15,000 a year to those earning less. They are not interested in giving trade unions and co-operatives a role as providers of insurance policies for unemployment, sickness and old age.

There is a more fundamental argument: Mr Field argues that targeting benefits encourages fraud and discourages self-reliance. But universal benefits are expensive. How much better if the Prime Minister, who briefly toured the country to defend the principle of welfare reform, could have engaged with those issues instead of indulging in petty political abuse.

No need to play the spycatcher

MANY ASSUMPTIONS about the Labour Party that had built up in the opposition years were forcefully cast aside by its new leader in the three years before the last election. But one thing we took for granted: a Labour Government would brook no nonsense from the security services. After Harold Wilson's paranoia about MI5 turned out to be entirely justified, how could any non-Conservative administration tolerate the culture of secrecy and self-regulation that has reigned among our spies since the beginnings of the British state?

Opposition politicians of all stripes were united in their condemnation of Margaret Thatcher's attempts to suppress Peter Wright's revelations of security service misbehaviour in the book *Spycatcher*.

Yet here we are, condemned to repeat history, this time as farce. Tony Blair's first reaction to David Shayler's tales of MI5 incompetence was not to find out whether they were true but to demand to know how such an unreliable agent had been recruited in the first place. And now the Government, having allowed Mr Shayler to portray himself as some kind of Len Deighton character on the run on the Continent, is wasting taxpayers' money on arresting him and attempting to bring him back from Paris. The arguments seem remarkably similar to those about Mr Wright, except that the *Spycatcher* author was higher-ranking in MI5, and his charges were more serious.

In neither the Shayler nor the Wright case does it appear that national security has been, or would be, endangered by their revelations. Both cases were all about embarrassment to the government of the day, rather than people's lives being at risk. We feel like the animals at the end of *Animal Farm*, watching the Labour pigs behaving exactly like the Conservative humans they replaced.

Unsolved mystery

WHY ARE there so many lesbian heroines of detective novels, and no gay men? That is the question asked by Professor Stephen Knight of University of Wales, Cardiff. It is an interesting question, but, like so many asked by academics, it is based on a false premise. Inspector Morse is famously unmarried. How can Regan and George's relationship in *The Sweeney* be understood? Hercule Poirot was notably camp. And as for Lt Columbo, was it not strange that we never saw Mrs Columbo? Perhaps we should have been examining the clues more carefully.

However much he'd like to, Paddy can't come to Tony's party

SACKED MINISTERS are awkward beasts. Even the saintly Frank Field has been on the warpath in the Sunday newspapers. Imagine, then, the row if Tony Blair had sacked another two or three hard-working Cabinet ministers to make space for Paddy Ashdown and his senior Liberal Democrat colleagues.

He chose not to this time, but the signs are all there that he intends to do so. During Prime Minister's Question Time last week, Tony Benn suggested that while Blair had every right to pick his own Cabinet, he should rule out appointing Paddy Ashdown. Blair refused to do so. His evasiveness prompted *The Sun* to run a front page story headed "Ashdown to join Blair's Cabinet". Nor was this the first indication of his grand design. Privately, he makes it plain that he sees no difference between his views and those of most of the Liberal Democrat MPs. It is pretty clear, therefore, that they sit on the opposition benches. Publicly, he has declared that he seeks a realignment of the centre left so that the next century belongs to radicals in the same way as this one has been dominated by the Conservatives.

The reason so much speculation surrounds this question at times of reshuffles is that it is the kind of risk that appeals to Blair. On questions of policy he is instinctively cautious and moves slowly; but on the question of how we are governed he likes to live dangerously. Let us not forget that in the midst of all the tentative Green Papers, policy reviews, consultation exercises and experimental schemes being carried out in small corners of Britain where no one will notice, Blair

has done more, with devolution in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, to change the constitution in a year than any Prime Minister since the war. And of course, as early as last summer, he established a Cabinet committee with the Liberal Democrats.

To get an insight into Blair's thinking it is useful to return to another exchange between himself and Benn at a Prime Minister's Question session the day after the committee was appointed last July. What was the precedent for this, Benn wanted to know. Blair was not interested in precedent, constitutional conventions or party tradition. "I did it," he declared, "because it is the right thing to do."

Previous Labour Prime Ministers had taken into account the views of trade unions, and the left and right of their parties, before reaching controversial decisions. Blair, unhindered by the weight of party history or sentimental tribalism, took a decision because it seemed obvious and rational. He did it without the support of most of his senior colleagues, with the exception of Peter Mandelson.

Apparently, Gordon Brown went back to his Treasury entourage after hearing the news of the committee and declared dismissively: "You'll never guess what he's done now." John Prescott, normally ultra-loyal in public, said to me shortly afterwards: "There's an agreement with the Liberal Democrats to look at constitutional changes... He [Blair] wants to do it and he believes in it." Prescott was not remotely tempted to say: "We want to do it and we believe in it."

Blair has already demonstrated a willingness to take on his most senior



STEVE RICHARDS

In the next couple of years, will the phone ring in Ashdown's office summoning him to Downing Street?

Cabinet colleagues. So, at some point in the next couple of years, will the phone ring in Ashdown's office summoning him to Downing Street? All that Blair has done suggests he would like to make such a call and all that Ashdown has said suggests he would be delighted to receive it. He admitted last September in an interview in the *New Statesman* that he had told his colleagues to prepare for a coalition if Labour had failed to get a big majority. But at this point we come to an overlooked problem. It is not Blair's problem, it is Ashdown's.

For if Ashdown were to receive such a call, he would not be able to say: "Yes." He could only say, rather pathetically: "You know I would like to, but could you hold on for a few days, possibly weeks, while I consult my party." At which point, the explosive manoeuvring becomes highly prob-

lematic. Picture a flustered Alastair Campbell emerging from No 10 to tell the assembled journalists and photographers: "The rest of the reshuffle has been delayed while Mr Ashdown discovers whether he can join us."

Liberal Democrats wary of Ashdown's strategy of closer co-operation with Labour have got him in what they call a "triple lock". The deal is that, before any Liberal Democrat can enter the Government, he or she needs the backing of the parliamentary party, a special conference and the membership. As Alan Beith underlined on Sky Television yesterday, Ashdown has to carry the wider party.

Those close to Ashdown insist the consultation could be done very quickly, but not quickly enough for a Prime Minister who knows that the brutal art of reshuffling needs to be accomplished with ruthless brevity. The combination of a prolonged delay, sacked Cabinet ministers roaming the television studios and a sceptical Labour party would be a massive deterrent for Blair. The only way Ashdown could join the Cabinet would be if he were in a position to do so immediately.

The micro-politics of the tense hours in which a reshuffle is held combines with bigger factors to stifle Ashdown's ambition: first and foremost, his relationship with his party. The view of his closest advisers is that he should have been straighter with them at last year's party conference about the advantages of co-operation with Labour. This September he will be more explicit, which is why Ashdown has predicted euphemistically that it will be a "bit like an old fashioned party conference". There will be a row.

He will succeed in persuading them over time only if electoral reform is established. Witness Lord Steel's remark in this newspaper that "coalition this side of a PR general election is out of the question". But here there are obstacles that will take several years to overcome. Will the party accept the proposals of the Jenkins Commission on electoral reform if they are not fully proportional? How will Blair respond to Jenkins? When will the referendum be held? Can it be won?

In my view, Blair will probably attempt to guide a largely reluctant party towards electoral reform, but even if the referendum is won, a new voting system will not be introduced until after the next election. While all this is happening, he would not want to provoke a backlash by a premature invitation to Ashdown. At the same time, Ashdown's party will not release its triple lock until electoral reform is firmly in place. I suspect the first possible opening for Ashdown to join the Cabinet would be halfway through the next parliament, assuming all goes to plan and Blair is as dominant a Prime Minister as he is now.

So, even though a powerful Prime Minister and a powerful leader seek a closer relationship, they may well find consummation impossible. There are too many hurdles at a time when Ashdown has already been in charge of his party for 10 years. It is more likely that Ashdown will be remembered in the same way as Neil Kinnock: someone who, on a much smaller canvas than Kinnock, changed the course of politics without ever winning the reward of office.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In the end I ceased to put projects forward because nothing ever happened. They'd disappear into a black hole."
Frank Field, former Minister for Welfare Reform

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"They come together like the Coroner's Inquest, to sit upon the murdered reputations of the week."
From William Congreve's *The Way of the World*

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MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD
What the Sunday newspapers said about President Clinton



of opportunity. An opportunity, instead, to reap the rewards of privilege without having to work for them.
Sunday Telegraph

THERE IS no doubt about it. President Bill Clinton is going

to have to pull an Oprah Winfrey, go on TV, weep, gnash his teeth, say he's sorry and promise it will never happen again. Whatever happens, he will have to apologise to the American people. He will say he lied to protect Monica, his fam-

ily and his friends. Yes, he had sex with her – once – in a moment of weakness, she stalked him like a seducer, he is sorry and that he wants to move on. Will America buy it? Americans are forgiving people. They will, I fear, forgive him.
Tucker Carlson
Sunday Mirror

I DON'T care for Bill Clinton or his politics, and like most people I enjoy a good hanging. Yet if I could, I would be the first to throw myself under the wheels of the tumbrel to prevent it reaching the scaffold. I doubt

whether anyone believes his protestations of personal innocence, least of all his wife, but, God help us, he is also President of the United States of America. And America, after its long voyage through depression and dismay, has begun to recover its sense of purpose and its enthusiasm for leadership. We need America.

Our world is more volatile and uncertain than ever. We need America brave, bold and self-assured. Not on its knees once more.
Michael Dobbs
Mail on Sunday

THE DARK underside of America's attachment to its written constitution is its legalism.

To any friend of the US and believer in US democracy, the issue is both serious and farcical. Few men and women would survive this degree of scrutiny over their lifelong sex lives, but Clinton has suffered not just because he is a President who has played the legal game like all his fellow, litigious countrymen, but because he gives so much offence to the Right.

Mr Clinton really has been the victim, as his wife Hillary

claimed, of a right-wing conspiracy.
The Observer

MONICA is convinced that she had every right to a nice job at the centre of power, secured through a friend of a friend rather than by her own efforts. Then to jump up and down on the Rose Garden lawn, at the centre of attention, and then to smile and flirt and seduce the Commander-in-Chief would seem quite natural. To Monica, this was just what White House intern meant. An opportunity, yes, but not a bottom-rung sort

PANDORA

JONATHAN POWELL (below), Tony Blair's Chief of Staff, has hitherto insisted on maintaining a low-profile "wallpaper" role (See Pandora, 13 July). Andrew Rawnsley in yesterday's *Observer* echoed Pandora's view that Powell is the most powerful man in Blair's inner circle. Powell was First Secretary at the British Embassy in Washington. He still maintains a high-level network in the city, much to the chagrin of the Ambassador, Sir Christopher Meyer. Naturally, Powell has learnt a thing or two about the American way of political funding, and appears to have applied his knowledge to the recent reshuffle. In America, campaign spin-doctors tend to find themselves in the role of Commerce Secretary, after their election victory. Two people following this route were Ron Brown, Clinton's strategist, and Maurice Stans, once one of Nixon's chief aides. How interesting, then, to find the double act of Peter Mandelson and Brian Wilson, Labour's election-winning team of 1997, together again at the Department of Trade and Industry. Could it be that the fundraising skills of these two men will be practised on the giant corporations of British industry?

HAS ALAN Clark fallen on hard times? Given that he recently hosted a "champagne garden party" at Saltwood Castle for 200 of his constituents, costing them £20 a time, this is perhaps a little difficult to believe. However, before the parliamentary recess Clark found himself in a spot of bother paying for his breakfast at the Commons. Clark was not carrying any cash. Fortunately for him, he was able to turn on that famous charm and encourage people to turn out their pockets for another good cause.

"NO ONE forgets a good teacher," according to a recent Government campaign endorsed by many celebrities. Had the drummer Keith Moon been alive, perhaps he would have been in the advert too. A biography of Moon, *Dear Boy: The Life of Keith Moon*, to be published by Omnibus Press, reveals the deadly accurate insight of his music teacher at Alpert Secondary Modern School. In a report on the 12-year-old Moon, he writes of his "great ability" but warns: "Must guard against the tendency to show off." Fortunately for Who fans everywhere, Moon was too much of a rebel to take heed of this advice.

CHRIS EVANS and Jonathan Ross were enjoying a rare bout of summer sunshine in Hampstead last week. Evans, Ross and a small entourage entertained

themselves at a popular watering-hole, enjoying such pub delights as the quiz machine, and a few lagers to boot. Ross, who has been mooted as a possible successor to Barry Norman as the BBC's film guru, gave Pandora some helpful advice as he emerged somewhat bedraggled from the "gentlemen's cloakroom". "There's a hoke in there," he slurred pointing to the locked cubicle. With that kind of pinpoint analysis, Ross is no doubt ready to take on Barry's mantle.

YASMIN REZAS hit production *Art* keeps on packing them in. The current cast playing out at the Wyndham's Theatre is an all-American affair, with David Dukes, Cheers star George Wendt and Stacy Keach. The roles have previously been taken by Ken Stott, Tom Courtney and Albert Finney; at one stage Jack Dee was on board. The current run is booked up for 14 weeks. "We are a tourist attraction," exulted Keach to *Variety*. Keach reveals that a British trio is on its way to Broadway, hopefully to repeat the success. Let us hope it is a case of "Art imitating Art".

MONICA LEWINSKY'S infamous dress, allegedly complete with essence of Bill Clinton, was from The Gap, according to Matt Drudge, the Internet columnist who broke the original Lewinsky story. The dress, now being tested for traces of DNA, has been the centre of attention of the political scandal, but now it seems that it will send shock waves through the fashion world too. The Gap have never previously been lured into making the same dramatic advertising moves as Benetton; with this news, perhaps the strategy will change. Pandora fears that images of fun-loving khaki-clad youth frolicking in adverts for The Gap will never be again be seen so innocently. Could this be the making of a slightly moister American Dream?



Cracking northern accent, Gromit

MICHAEL CAINE never lost his. Nor did Richard Burton, or Sean Connery. Emma Thompson started with a standard one and then acquired a new one from Essex. Laurence Olivier's was always so extravagantly absurd that no one knew where it came from. All the English stars who made it in Hollywood had accents that they had to deal with in some way or other. Now the latest Brit exports, Wallace and Gromit, will be doctored to make their scripts acceptable.

They'll still have northern accents, but colloquial phrases such as "I could just fancy some cheese" are to become the far less flavoured "I'd like a nice piece of cheese". The move has provoked the usual furious denunciation; MPs have condemned the producers, Aardman Animation. They are right that it matters, but I think they may be wrong in insisting that the northern dialect be treated as equivalent to standard English; it is too valuable for that. As usual, the reflex action is about class antagonism.

People say that we are a nation of shopkeepers, librarians is more like it. We have a genius for classi-



TREVOR PHILLIPS

Every dialect has its place, and the place for some is at home, not abroad

fication of things and people. We still use the word "class" to indicate something far more than socio-economic status - breeding, poise and taste, which show up in the way we speak. It used to be thought that someone with a northern regional accent could not have "class". Now, few people really think so narrowly. Wallace and Gromit have to think about more than what a few snobs

in London say, now that they are performing on a world stage.

It's not that people hate or despise regional accents. Even the BBC is now undeterred by the prospect of a Brummie whine - a long way from the days when broadcasters such as Sue Lawley found it impossible to be taken seriously with a Black Country voice. However, Disneyfication of popular culture is increasingly forcing people to make a choice of softening their own original accents or of adopting the bland transatlantic speech that dominates the airwaves.

The drift away from regional dialects isn't about the legendary self-centredness of American audiences either. Indeed, Americans seem to find regional dialects charming; notwithstanding the difficulties of understanding the former steelworkers in *The Full Monty*, English accents of all kinds abound on American TV. A character in *Fraser* boasts a Manchester accent, and in Will Smith's series, *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, the English actor Joe Marcell makes the mix more exotic by employing a posh upper-class voice that comes straight from the back

benches of the House of Lords - and he is black. Difference can now be fashionable.

But should accents tell you anything at all about a person? The right answer is "No." In reality, the answer is "Yes." In my early journalism, on the black-and-Asian current affairs show *Skiff*, it was a vital tool. Because of the nature of our investigations, what you said to a white person might differ from what you might say to a black person. But, on the phone, how could you tell? The fact is that you can; even now I think that most black Britons can tell if the person at the other end of the line is a person of colour.

Those who grew up in the Caribbean can tell the difference between an Afro-Caribbean, an Indo-Caribbean and a Chinese-Caribbean person, with their eyes closed; the timbres are different. But all three groups speak the same language - or, more precisely, the same two languages - and this is where our friends in the north may be too hasty in demanding that their dialects be treated as universal property.

The experience of all immigrant groups is that we bring our accents

to our new country, but, in order to fit in, many of us adopt the prevailing speech of the dominant majority. But when we are at home, we use our ancestral dialect. When my mother comes to visit we will spend much of the time conversing in a way virtually unintelligible to many of the readers of this column.

Perhaps the private language will become a valuable tribal symbol. Depriving slaves of the use of their private (African) language was a vital component of their owners' strategy for preventing insurrection.

As we are forced to interact more and more often with people whom, a century ago, we would never have met, we have to find comfortable ways of communicating with them. This does not mean that the rich diversity of speech that characterises the English-speaking world will be impoverished. It simply means that every dialect has its place, and the place for some is at home, not abroad.

There's no reason to be ashamed of a northern voice, but that doesn't mean you want every Tom, Dick or Harry using it.

Futile handshakes of those kept hostage by Iran's past

IT WAS meant to be a meeting of minds. On the right sat Abbas Abdi, one of the Iranians who organised the takeover of the US embassy in Tehran in 1979 when Washington admitted the recently deposed Shah to America for medical treatment. On the left sat Barry Rosen, one of the US hostages held captive by Mr Abdi's Iranians for 444 days. Mr Abdi was dressed in A-la-mode revolutionary clothes; he was unshaven, sporting shaded glasses and an open-neck brown shirt. Mr Rosen could have walked straight out of Manhattan in his dark business suit and red, patterned tie.

The television crews fought for position - here, after all, was a story anyone could understand, a piece of theatre for which any journalist would give up a languid Paris afternoon. Would the Good Guy shake hands with the Bad Guy? The reporters decided at once that Mr Abdi was the criminal just as Mr Rosen was the American innocent abroad. So had some of the audience.

The two men - for whom one felt more and more sorry throughout the afternoon - had been brought together in Paris last Friday by the so-called "Centre for World Dialogue" under the chairmanship of Eric Rouleau, former *Le Monde* correspondent in Tehran and ex-French ambassador to Tunis (of whom more later). Scattered amid the audience were members of the Iranian opposition, along with a number of blue-shirted and plain-clothes security men - just in case the meeting of minds turned out to be a little premature. True, President Khatami of Iran had talked of respect for the "American people". True, President Clinton and his Secretary of State Madeleine Albright thought that it was time for warmer relations. But bringing together captor and captive was, to put it mildly, a little exotic.



ROBERT FISK

Bringing together captor and captive was, to put it mildly, a little exotic

Mr Abdi's speech was as predictable as it appeared to be sincere. He wanted to talk about past US misdeeds in Iran, of the CIA's successful plot to overthrow the democratically elected government of Mohamed Mossadeq in 1953, of the decades of American-backed dictatorship by the Shah and his cruel Savak secret police. The US, he reminded us, had never recognised the Islamic revolution - indeed, only months before the deposed Shah arrived in New York, senior Iranian military officers were planning a counter-coup that would be launched with a series of code-words broadcast on *Voice of America*.

But already some members of the audience were in revolt. A woman interrupted to protest at the 1988 prison massacre of up to 20,000 Iranian opponents of the regime. When she refused to obey Mr Rouleau's thunderous instruction to leave the room, she was physically ejected by the strong-armed men. A younger, less passive demonstrator - also an Iranian - was dragged shouting from the auditorium as Mr Rouleau looked on in fury. But Mr

Abdi watched all this with a half-smile. "I would like to have replied to them," he said later, having clearly misunderstood the sort of dialogue Mr Rouleau had in mind.

His love for Iran, Mr Rosen assured us, was demonstrated by the name he gave his daughter: the Persian name "Ariana". He had once been a peace corps volunteer in Iran. His captivity (he was a press officer in America's Tehran embassy in 1979) had been a personal trauma but he had to put resentment aside. But no matter how they rationalised the embassy takeover, Iranians must - "if only to themselves" - admit that it was unjustified.

Mr Rosen, needless to say, was optimistic. Iran had "suffered deeply", he said. "But I believe that two decades of animosity between our two countries is coming to an end. The past can't be made to go away - and shouldn't. But there could be a new beginning."

This was, no doubt, earnestly meant. But it sounded a bit like a Clinton or Albright speech; the old contrast of opposites to produce sincerity. Mr Abdi responded carefully. Mr Rosen had been held hostage for 444 days - but Iran had been held hostage for 25 years.

There were more interruptions. A man asked why he had not been told that the meeting was open to all members of the public. "You no longer have the floor," Mr Rouleau bawled at him. But he allowed an American reporter for Fox television to ramble on about how he (the reporter) thought Mr Abdi could "do better" in his replies.

Then an Iranian - a lawyer - gently asked for Mr Abdi's response to the torture of his client, the former Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Abbas Amir Entezam, by Iranian secret policemen. His torture, the lawyer claimed, followed interrog-



Barry Rosen meets Abbas Abdi, his former captor Reuters

ation by none other than Mr Abdi himself. Mr Rouleau tried desperately to move to another question - until we at the back shouted for a response from Mr Abdi (who denied all knowledge of the affair, adding that he was "glad" the lawyer hadn't accused him of torture).

Whose idea was the US embassy siege, Mr Abdi was asked? Why was it undertaken when the Iranian people were against it? What were the contacts between the Iranian clerics and the US administration at this time? Mr Rouleau, who was turning pomposity into an art form, announced that Mr Abdi would only answer one question - and was put in his place when Mr Abdi said he would answer all three. The embassy takeover was a "spontaneous" act, he told us. Perhaps, we wondered, Mr Abdi also believed in fairies at the bottom of the garden.

And then we noticed an Iranian woman sitting close by her hands clasped together, staring at Mr Abdi. She worked in a Paris shop and, by chance, we knew her. Her brother and sister were killed in the 1988

prison massacres, she said quietly. Abdi was the deputy to the prosecutor at the time. "I just came to see his face," she said. So we asked Mr Abdi whether he'd been number two when they hanged those prisoners in their thousands. He had been, he replied, director of the Minister of Justice's "Social Research" department at the time - someone was getting their facts wrong.

But the television crews got what they wanted. The Good Guy shook hands with the Bad Guy. The theatre was over. But Mr Abdi had said Mr Rosen should not take his captivity personally. And Mr Rosen had said he did take it personally. So what they had to agree on - such as Mr Abdi's job when they hanged all those prisoners back in 1988 - remained a mystery.

What they disagreed on was all too clear: the meaning of history and the power of memory, personal and political abuse, East and West. It's going to be a long, long time, it seems, before Mr Khatami and an American president can shake hands.

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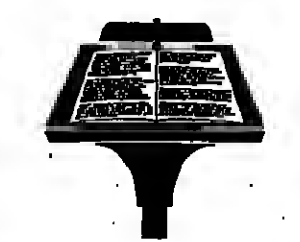
How to make our prisons work

THE NINETIES produced some hard, and much needed, lessons for the Prison Service particularly about security. The service's response has been impressive. There were only 23 escapes from prisons last year compared with 232 in 1993. But meanwhile, and primarily because of the rapid rise in the population, the ability of the service to deliver constructive regimes has been limited.

This government came into office with a commitment to tackle crime. We believe prisons can be made to work as one element in a radical and coherent strategy to protect the public by reducing crime. So what are the defining features of my approach?

First, our policy must be fundamentally about protecting the public. Assessing risk, reducing risk and managing risk after release are key elements. Caring every offender of crime is beyond the reach, I suggest, of any Home Secretary. But some things make some people more likely to offend, and some things make some people more likely to desist from offending. The Prison Service in isolation will hit relatively

few of those moving targets. In concert with others, however, it has a critical part to play in bringing forward the moment at which an offender gives up offending, whether through understanding the impact on others, through finding a new, more positive way of life, or through the impact of rigorous and well-planned supervision.



PODIUM

JACK ST RAW
From the 1998 Annual Lecture on penal policy delivered by the Home Secretary to the Prison Reform Trust in London

There has also to be a secure and consistent broader context for our penal policy.

This is above all about sentencing. Until we introduced the Crime and Disorder Bill last year, Lord Hurd's Criminal Justice Act 1991 was probably the last piece of strategic criminal justice legislation in this country. It continues to be the foundation for sentencing and for a proper use of custody as punishment. It is a serious-

ness of the offending or the risk of future harm to the public which justify custody. Community punishments remain the most common disposal for most offenders and the public broadly accept this.

Almost revealing piece of recent research by Mike Dough and Julian Roberts showed that, when the public is presented with the full details of a real-life offence, offender and sentencing, they make choices very similar, and if anything less severe, than the sentence of the actual court in the case. In that study, for example, over half of those questioned recommended a community penalty for a burglar given a three-year prison sentence by the Crown Court in real life.

But courts still need to be convinced that community punishments are demanding and rigorously enforced. Offenders who do not go to prison should not be seen as "getting away with it". Those who are sent to prison should be done so with a clear-sighted appreciation of its consequences for the offender concerned.

On the other hand, if sentencers use prison other than in accordance with these

principles, they undermine the Prison Service's capacity to be effective in tackling the offending of those in prison.

In case you hadn't noticed, this government is passionate about young people and about education. That's education, education, education. I will have more to say in a minute about the implications of that for constructive regimes, but let me lodge with you some pretty alarming statistics.

Twenty per cent of the general population have deficiencies in literacy and numeracy, but among the prisoner population, this figure is much greater. So we can hardly be insensitive to the opportunities which the provision of well targeted education in prisons offers. Prison has an infinite capacity to inculcate dependence, to remove the most basic capacity for personal decision making and to undermine a person's self-reliance. As a government, we are not prepared to allow that in prisons.

I am confident that the vision I have for constructive regimes will be welcome. Together, we have a real opportunity to make prisons work.

What are you up to, Euan Kerr?



JOHN WALSH
The Beano has become more crass, more cautious and more commercial since I last looked

VIBRATION WHITE-FINGER - what a name. It has a fine tribal ring to it. Too serious to be a character invented by P G Wodehouse, too modern to be a Sioux chieftain, it's obviously the name of a guy who has seen life - someone not afraid of a challenge, whether in some tight-knuckle ride over the Appalachian rapids or in the scarcely less alarming environs of the boudoir.

Whatever Mr White-Finger actually does for a living (front a same-name rock band? Hire himself out as a James Bond villain, on the lines of Oddjob Gold-finger?), you feel you'd love to meet him, though not necessarily shake him by the hand.

And then light dawns and you realise that the name you've been bearing all over the news is a disease, affecting coal-miners and other people who handle road drills and kango hammers and things that vibrate all day long. It is part of a legal action, dating back to 1991, in which thousands of miners are taking the Government to court, demanding compensation for breathing in coal dust and related ills. British Coal won't admit the miners are suffering from it, and I can't say I'm very surprised. VWF sounds, if not exactly bogus, then certainly spurious - one of those instant indignation and retrospective suffering, rather than an accepted pathology.

It goes with that other newly-minted condition, the one affecting four sub-editors on *The Financial Times*, who lost their compensation claim in the High Court last week. The court reports were full of grand phrases - "upper-limb biomechanical personal injuries", "musculo-skeletal disorders" - that carefully skirted around mentioning our old pal Repetitive Strain Injury, a condition that's never been proven.

When I get laid off with atrophied muscles, I'll eat these words, but all this quasi-medical paraphernalia seems designed merely to avoid statements of the obvious: if you work with hammers, you may get eaten. If you work with drills, you'll probably get shaky fingers. If you overwork at a keyboard, day after day, you could get aching limbs and seized-up hands. It comes with the



The perennial Bash Street Kids are still one of the highlights of the 'Beano', which celebrates its diamond jubilee this year

territory. It's the risk you take. Otherwise, you might as well sue the local off-licence for giving you a disease called Bourbon Shaking Hand or Marlboro Catarrhal Wheeze.

ON HEARING that the *Beano*, the most passionately-devoured reading matter in my early years, was celebrating its diamond jubilee, I rushed to the newsagent for a plunge into the Memory Lane septic tank. Things have, I note sadly, become decidedly more cautious, more crass and a good deal more commercial since I last looked. You can't turn many pages without encountering an advertisement for Jaffa Cakes or Rice Krispies or Dairyella Slices rendered as a strip cartoon, or a marketing opportunity with Franklin Mint-style collectible figurines of Dennis and Gnasher, both enterprises served up as childish fun.

The Numskulls, who were once an inventive crew of boffins living inside a human head with control panels for monitoring the body's be-

haviour, are sadly dumbed-down and one-dimensional. Romance, once unthinkable in the *Beano*, rears its head with a strip called Crazy for Daisy while another, about an annoyingly speedy adolescent, is named after the street slang for cocaine - Billy Whizz.

On the other hand, I'm glad to see the Bash Street Kids haven't acquired trainers and baseball caps (the one called "Erbert" still wears his jumper pulled up just under his nose), all the characters still say "Grrr!" and "Chuckel" and "Argh!" and "Gasp!" and "Tee-hee!" and the parents actually say "Fume!" out loud.

The only humorous moment hitherto unnoticed is that the editor of the comic is allegedly called "Euan Kerr". This is such an old schoolboy joke (try saying it quickly with the stress on the second syllable) that I'm surprised the chaste DC Thompson didn't have a word with Mr Kerr long ago.

I'VE BEEN working in the British Library lately, and have discovered

the exciting rules of Laptop Management. Everyone at the desks on my left has a laptop computer. The days when a library was a place of silent absorption and intellectual wrestle - the rapt trinity of student, book and scribbled notes on an A4 pad - are now history, posse beyond belief. Oh, some people still insist on sitting and reading away taking notes, poor deluded Luddites; but they're frankly objects of scorn to the clued-up technocrats who daily invade the place with their Apple PowerBooks and Hewlett Packard 360LXs.

The first rule you learn is, surprisingly, that noise is still frowned on. I don't mean talking, of course (that old thing), I mean failing to turn down the noise your computer makes - "doommggg!" - when you switch it on. As a dozen aggrieved faces turn to yours, they all convey the same message: if you want to be taken seriously as a scholar, you should have discovered the volume control long ago.

Second, security. Nobody is very likely to nick your laptop in the British Library - would any aspi-

rant computer-blogger go to all the trouble of acquiring a reader's pass? But you never know what one of the tragic book-reading types would do in a sudden fit of jealousy. So you need some form of lock. And to appear in the Library without a chain to attach your computer to the desk - and a damn hefty chain at that, the kind with which you might ostentatiously secure your expensive bicycle outside a football ground - is to be hopelessly provincial. The coolest users buy laptops with a little metal flange sticking out of the back, which a strong but discreet little wire connects to the desk. To be seen without either of these restraining devices, to have to physically carry your computer-like a metal handbag on every trip to the catalogue screen or issue desk, is just social death.

I see what's happening here. The rumour that we will soon have to pay £300 a year to use the Library means it's taking on the identity and fee structure of a London club. Those who are already members, as it were, are becoming rather snooty and un-

democratic about their peers. ("My dear - who let him in?"). Hence the attitude-striking, the HM Bateman responses to inappropriate behaviour.

The other day, having studied the works of Synge and Brian Friel quite long enough, I decided to do some writing. But the only way I can comfortably reach the keyboard of my machine is by resting it on eight good-size hardbacks. So I gathered the five volumes from which I'd been working, stacked them up, added a couple of other books from a neighbouring desk, balanced my Powerbook on top and started writing. The look of horror on my neighbour's face when he returned was a picture. "Do you mind?" he said. "These things are for reading, not resting on." I felt about two inches high. Did this man really believe that, needing some books on which to rest my computer, I had made my way down the Euston Road, gone into the big building and joined its ranks because I'd heard they had, ooh, dozens of these useful items going free in there?

RIGHT OF REPLY

ANN ROBINSON



The Director General of the British Retail Consortium defends the big supermarkets

RETAILERS ARE bearing the brunt of criticism for a number of market problems that in reality have very little to do with them.

The strength of the pound, the collapse of commodity markets and the fact that there are too many farmers all chasing the same slice of the action are all issues that must be addressed. But they do not fall within the retailers' remit and certainly have little to do with how profitable Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury or Sainsbury might be.

Maintaining healthy margins is a question of businesses improving their operational efficiencies. Healthy returns are also to do with a greater proportion of the more profitable own-label products being developed by the retailers. In the UK, own label represents about 45 per cent of supermarket activity compared to 25 per cent in the rest of Europe. Supplier prices are only one small part of the business equation.

Few statistics bear out the perception that, in spite of this profitability, UK consumers pay much more for their food than those on the continent. Products such as milk, bread and baked beans are commonly sold at knock-down prices that bear no relation to the cost of production.

Grocery retailing is a harsh business. Any complacency between mainstream retailers would quickly be exploited by other operators such as when the continental discounters successfully entered the market in the 1980s.

Until now, the Office of Fair Trading has considered the expansion of the big four supermarkets to have benefited consumers "in terms of amenity, choice and, most crucially, price".

The British Retail Consortium welcomes this inquiry and sees it as a great opportunity to clear the air.

Dark thoughts in sunny places

MONDAY BOOK

THE GIFT OF A DAUGHTER
BY EMYR HUMPHREYS, SEREN, £10.95



FEW BRITISH novels of the Fifties repay rereading more than *A Toy Epic* (1958), which earned Emyr Humphreys critical plaudits in a year notable for distinguished fiction. It traces the development of three boys in "one of the four corners of Wales" (in fact, Humphreys's native Cwmyd) from their earliest years to the threshold of manhood, by interweaving their confessional voices.

We attend to the secret histories of a vicar's son, a farmer's son, and a boy from an urban working-class background. While the novel owes its technique to Virginia Woolf's *The Waves*, the impression it makes is one of extraordinary freshness: a rapt discovery of both selfhood and the significance of other people. It makes the reader aware of the complexities of being Welsh and of being male, in a world in which traditional assumptions are weakening.

Emyr Humphreys, born in 1919, was already

the author of sensitive and intelligent novels, starting with *The Little Kingdom* in 1946. There, the community studied is a microcosm of Wales itself, and of mid-century provincial life in any developed country. *A Toy Epic* was a turning-point in his career, and in Wales the novel enjoys classic status. Nevertheless, one can feel that he still has not been accorded the wide recognition he deserves.

Humphreys' career is reflected in his latest novel, *The Gift of a Daughter*. Born in Prestatyn,

an English-speaker, he began to apply himself to Welsh language and culture as an ardent youth, in 1936. Indeed, he wrote *A Toy Epic* first of all in Welsh (*Y Tri Llois*). In the war he was a conscientious objector, but later carried out relief work abroad, including in the Italy which plays such a significant part in this new book. He has been a teacher, a university lecturer and a television producer of films in both English and Welsh. His knowledge of institutions, of the moral struggles they go through and which they impose on the individuals who belong to them, is impressive in its width of understanding - not least in *The Gift of a Daughter* itself.

The reputation Humphreys has enjoyed since *A Toy Epic* has largely been as an interpreter of Welsh experience and Welsh identity. Perhaps his three strongest novels are *A Man's Estate* (1956), *Outside the House of Beal* (1965) and *Jones* (1964). All of them pay a humanist's tribute to the Welsh puritan/evangelical inheritance, with its passionate sense of justice and its belief in an individual's supreme importance. His critical work *The Twentieth Tradition* (1983) is essential reading for anyone concerned with the relationship between national, or social, identity and the imagination - especially in Welsh terms. Then *Unconditional Surrender*, in 1996, marked an extension of his range. Set in the charged months between May and August 1945, the novel dramatises those problems of displacement, guilt and loss that have remained integral to postwar society.

These inform *The Gift of a Daughter*, too. Its protagonists, Aled Morgan and his wife Marion, now well into middle age, belong to a generation which sought identity and security in the redefinition of nationality and tradition. They taught their beloved daughter and only child, Rhianon, to speak Welsh as her first language. Despite a purity of intent, there was always a deep ambivalence in their ambitions, which set so



Humphreys' latest novel is set in Tuscany

much store on being firmly established in both professional and domestic life.

Aled lectures in archaeology, yet is aware that the preservation of his job and his research inevitably entails compromise. Marion, the more brilliant of the two, has long given up scholarly pursuits. Their Anglesey home is beautiful, and lovable. But doesn't it also represent a retreat from the world, a too-easy oasis?

Aled and Marion's peace of mind is shattered by Rhianon's death from a miscarriage. She has left home following her parents' disapproval of her choice of partner and faith (both strongly New Age). Yet not the least disturbing aspect of this absorbing novel is our gradual realisation that, in serious respects, the couple are not quite shattered enough. Aled's sabbatical in Italy - where he is able to re-immersing himself in Etruscan studies - shows his ability to replace real and painful feelings with counterfeit substitutes.

At times, there seems a certain blurring in the actuality of the novel. Rhianon's New Age associates are too like Sixties hippies, with whom they should not be confused. Its Italy does not reflect the political turmoil of the Nineties. Yet these lapses pale beside the intensity of its examination of the contemporary conflict between painful authenticity and attractive inauthenticity, in a tense drama that works towards a troubling close. This is a novel worthy of the author of *A Toy Epic*.

PAUL BINDING

MONDAY POEM

LILITH
BY OLIVIA BYARD

She could not submit, had she wished to;
those straddled limb felt like bars

and she slid through them. Out in the desert,
where sand meets dark in a clash of arms,

dreams slip through her hands, salamanders
enveloped by gritty night. Alone,

no mate to ease down hard spine ridges
which uncurl from a hissing coil, she prays

perfection will sustain with each new game
she plays, but it never does. Sameness clings

limpet to the rock of each experience
the ebb-tide leaves exposed. She hunts appetite.

Our poems this week come from volumes competing for this year's Forward Prizes, which will be announced on 7 October. Olivia Byard's book 'From a Benediction' (Peterloo Poets, £7.95) is shortlisted for the Best First Collection award

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Mahbub ul Haq

MAHBUB UL HAQ was an outstanding economist and a visionary social thinker.

His work has brought about a major change in the understanding and statistical accounting of the process of development. The series of Human Development Reports produced by the United Nations Development Programme, which was initiated by Haq in 1990, has had a profound effect on the way policy-makers, public servants and the news media view social and economic advancement. Rather than concentrating only on a few traditional measures of economic progress (such as the gross national product per head), "human development" accounting involves a systematic examination of a wealth of information about how human beings in each society live (including their state of education and health care, among other variables).

Haq, who was Pakistan's best-known economist (aside from his being one of the most distinguished practitioners of applied economics in the world), was born in pre-partition Punjab in 1934. As a young teenager he saw the turmoil and massacres associated with the partition of the subcontinent in 1947; his own family narrowly escaped being hatched. The nature of the sectarian violence left a lasting impression on the robustly independent mind of the young boy.

If ignorance is the enemy against which he battled most (the Human Development Reports were merely the principal munitions he employed in this battle in the last decade of his life), his total rejection of sectarianism, bigotry and social hatred played a major part in the development of his universalist outlook, including his passionate belief in the importance of "equality of life chances" for all, as the guiding principle behind his global reports. His Bengali wife, Khadija Khanum (known to her friends as Bani), herself an applied economist of much talent and dedication, has been a fitting partner of Mahbub ul Haq in his struggle against both sectarianism and ignorance.

Haq did his first degree at Punjab University in Pakistan, followed by another BA - rapidly earned - at Cambridge University, then a PhD at Yale University, which was followed by post-doctoral work at Harvard. After returning to Pakistan, he became the chief economist of Pakistan's planning commission at a remarkably young age. Despite being, inevitably, a pillar of establishment, Haq retained his healthy scepticism of the process of planning of which he was in charge.

When I visited him and Bani in Pakistan in the spring of 1993 (we first met in 1963 as fellow undergraduates at Cambridge), he explained to his Indian friend both his successes and failures, with almost equal pride. While the successes reflected the use of applied economic reasoning, the failures too called for economic and social investigation, with the need to diagnose barriers that make progress so difficult: the

deeply unequal pattern of land holding, the stifling grip of a small number of families ("the 20 families") on business and economic affairs, widespread illiteracy, and the counter-productive dominance of traditional rules and regulations to which the political elite was entirely wedded.

As the sun set on a magically bewildering Karachi, Mahbub's voice rose and his intense analysis was rivetingly heretical. (The fury of his eloquent scepticism was ultimately broken, on this occasion, by his infant daughter Tameema's non-verbal but effective insistence that enough was enough, it was time for music and we must all listen to her favourite song.)

Some of this far-reaching and wide-ranging analysis found elegant expression in his first book, *The Strategy of Economic Planning*, published later that year. This was

As the sun set on a magically bewildering Karachi, Mahbub's voice rose and his intense analysis was rivetingly heretical

a major contribution to development studies, which also contained, among many other things, one of the first systematic accounts of the widening economic gap between East and West Pakistan - an issue that would receive much attention soon afterwards.

From 1970 to 1982, Haq worked in international agencies, primarily the World Bank, where he was not only the director of the Policy Planning Department, but also became a chief economic adviser to Robert McNamara, then the president of the bank, with whom he established a remarkable alliance in working out strategies of poverty removal. In the years between 1982 and 1988, Haq was back in Pakistan, and served variously as a cabinet minister for finance, planning and commerce. The following year he returned to the world of international organisations - this time as Special Adviser to the UNDP Administrator.

It was in this capacity that he launched the now famous Human Development Reports which have been published annually since 1990. He gathered around him a dedicated team of social scientists, including a group of like-minded economists who served as consultants, such as Paul Streeten, Gustav Ranis, Keith Griffin, Frances Stewart, Lord (Meghad) Desai, Sudhir Anand, among others. By the time he returned to Pakistan in

1996 to establish the new Human Development Centre in Islamabad, he had the satisfaction of seeing that the Human Development Reports were already well-established and well-respected across the world.

What is so special about Haq's approach to development as reflected in the Human Development Reports? The "Human Development Index" (the so-called HDI, which these reports made into something of a flagship, has been remarkably successful in serving as a measure of development, rivaling the gross national product (GNP). Based on three components, viz. indicators of basic education, longevity and income per head, it is not exclusively focused on economic opulence (as the GNP is), and it certainly has served to broaden empirical attention in assessing the process of development.

However, the HDI itself is a very limited indicator of development. The Human Development Reports contain much more information on a variety of social, economic and political features that influence the quality of human life, and Haq's basic approach must not be identified simply with the use of HDI, seen on its own. The main contribution of these reports has been a remarkable expansion of the informational coverage of economic and social development through a variety of systematic indicators and through detailed critical analysis.

Haq himself had been initially unsure about using a crude index like the HDI, but soon persuaded himself that the dominance of GNP could not be broken by a whole set of tables (people would still go back to the unadorned GNP when it came to providing a summary measure of development). "We need a measure," he once explained to me, "of the same level of vulgarly as the GNP - just one number - but a measure that is not as blind to social aspects of human lives as the GNP is." Haq hoped that not only would the HDI be something of an improvement on - or at least a helpful supplement to - the GNP but also that it would serve to broaden public interest in the other variables that are plentifully analysed in the Human Development Reports.

Since some commentators have seen Haq as primarily an "anti-GNP" theorist, it is also important to examine the limited sense in which that description is accurate. First, while he was most sceptical of the use of GNP as a "sole indicator" of development, he was not opposed to including it among other components of HDI. Indeed, the income variable in the make-up of the HDI does exactly that. Second, Haq's opposition to over-reliance on the GNP was partly based also on the unjustified pessimism that it tended to generate. While a poor economy may take a very long time to become a rich country through GNP growth, the conditions of human living can be changed much more rapidly through intelligent policy-making. In an insightful passage in *The Strategy of Economic*



Planning, he thus identified the basic issue:

If India and Pakistan manage to maintain an annual growth rate of 5 per cent and pass through roughly the same "take-off" period as Rostow identifies for many of the Western countries, the per capita income after another 20 years will be no higher than the present-day per capita income in Egypt.

In contrast, by properly targeted social intervention, life expectancy of poor countries can be rapidly brought quite close to those of the richest countries in the world. Similar achievements can be made in other fields as well, such as basic education. And all this can be done without adversely affecting the growth of GNP itself. Indeed, Haq was much involved in working out

precisely how this can be best achieved (curbing military expenditure was among his top priorities), and his contributions to the measurement of development were ultimately geared to these policy issues.

Mahbub ul Haq had an optimism that was infectious partly because it was so well reasoned. I saw him last when he came to visit me in Cambridge a few months ago and we talked not far from where we had first met in 1953 as undergraduates. Aside from his cure for the world, he outlined his special hope for South Asia: to cut military expenditure drastically. The subcontinental nuclear explosions, which occurred soon afterwards, have not exactly ad-

vanced that programme. But, as reasoned critiques emerge, Mahbub may win yet.

Amartya Sen

In the early 1950s, writes Tam Dalyell, those of us who did Part II of the Economics Tripos at King's College, Cambridge, were hugely privileged in our supervisors - Nicholas Kaldor, Director of Studies, Harry G. Johnson, and Robin Marjoris; sometimes, we were handed to the truly formidable Joan Robinson, author of *The Economics of Imperfect Competition*, then writing her *The Accumulation of Capital*, and occasionally sent to the professorial fellows of the college, Richard Kahn and Richard Stone.

When he first arrived, his contemporaries thought Mahbub ul Haq was shy, to the point of being mouse-like. Then it soon dawned on us how utterly wrong we were. In his slow, soft voice, he began to take on Harry Johnson, the large and daunting Canadian theoretician of International Trade, later to be Professor at the LSE and Chicago, arguing the finer points of the trade cycle theories of Roy Harrod, Michal Kalecki and Francis Modigliani. We marvelled at his intellectual nerve.

Mahbub had the guts to tell Nicholas Kaldor that his proposal for an Expenditure Tax, with the aim of helping to establish a welfare state, was unsuitable for India and Pakistan, where the great need was capital formation, and an all-out growth philosophy. Mrs Robinson, deploying the case for Chinese Marxist economics, held no terrors for him; he told her that her views and the Chinese experience were inappropriate to the subcontinent.

When I asked the visiting American professor of the year, Milton Friedman none other, to tea in my rooms to meet the King's College undergraduates in the faculty, it was Mahbub who kept our end up, in the general defence of King's Keynesian welfare economics. To defy Milton Friedman was a feat. We were just proud of him. He was our Mahbub.

Outside King's, Mahbub was a member of Professor Sir Dennis Robertson's Political Economy Club, which met weekly in Trinity. At first hand, I can say the dons from other colleges considered him a star of the future, not least because it was quite clear that he actually wanted to do something for the developing peoples of the world.

In 1956 Mahbub, unable to return to Pakistan, spent the short vacation, reading, at my house in Scotland. My mother, who had lived in India, was entranced by his beautiful manners, and even more by his intense curiosity about the British in India. He wanted to know what made her and other women of the British political class in the subcontinent tick - but he did it in a gently humorous way. A phenomenally quick digester of a book, he would select a volume at night from our shelves, often pretty Blimpish stuff, and talk about what he had read the following morning.

He had a capacity to understand two sides or many sides of every story - a capacity which he clearly retained whenever we met over the years and which he used for the good of the peoples in many parts of the world.

Mahbub ul Haq, economist; born Punjab 22 February 1934; Director, Policy Planning Department, World Bank 1970-82; Planning and Finance Minister, Pakistan 1982-88; Special Adviser, United Nations Development Programme Administration 1989-96; married Khadija Khanum (one son, one daughter); died New York 16 July 1998.

Professor Allan Cormack

ALLAN CORMACK, Nobel Laureate in Medicine and Physiology, was famous as one of the developers of CAT scanning, an advance in X-ray diagnosis which allows information on the entire three-dimensional region scanned by an X-ray beam to be imaged rather than the traditional two-dimensional flat image of everything squeezed together on the X-ray film.

Cormack was born in South Africa in 1924 and attended the University of Cape Town. After graduation, he spent four years of postgraduate study at St John's College, Cambridge, working with Otto Frisch on the properties of Helium 6 before returning to be a lecturer in the Cape Town Physics Department. While at Cambridge, he met his future wife, Barbara Seavey.

As the only qualified nuclear physicist in Cape Town, he was asked to spend part of the week at Groote Schuur Hospital (later famous for heart transplant surgery) to deal with radioactive materials, and in particular to find a way to measure X-ray absorption by different parts of the body.

It was then for the first time, that he began to think about the X-ray imaging problem and how most of the information in an X-ray was being wasted. In 1956, Cormack went to Harvard University on sabbatical, where he began completely different work with the physicists Norman Ramsey and Richard Wilson on the scattering of protons.

While at Harvard, he was invited to join the Physics Department at Tufts University by the then Chair-

man, Julian Knipp. He continued the nuclear physics work for many years at the Harvard cyclotron.

When Cormack realized that tomography, used in mapping in diverse fields such as astronomy and oceanography, could be applied to the X-ray analysis problem, he was surprised that he was unable to find a solution in the existing scientific literature. He decided to work out the problem himself, first with a mathematical analysis and then with crude (by today's standards) experimental set-ups.

After confirming his calculations with experiments on objects as diverse as a penny and a pork chop, he published his results in a series of papers in the *Journal of Applied Physics* in the mid-Sixties with the unassuming titles "Representation of a Function by its Line Integrals", with "Some Radiological Applications, I" and "II".

Having solved the basic problem, Cormack had little interest in the engineering aspects and the first commercial CAT scanner was patented by the Englishman Godfrey Hounsfield in 1968. Hounsfield applied fast computers to the mathematical analysis of the tomographic X-ray data and succeeded in obtaining images of the inside of the body. The two men shared the Nobel Prize in 1979, meeting for the first time in Stockholm.

Cormack was a modest man who enjoyed the academic routine at Tufts, teaching undergraduates and graduate students and serving on university committees. In fact, when word of the Nobel Prize reached him in the early autumn of 1979, his teaching duty was lecturing to



Cormack, left, collecting his Nobel Prize for Medicine in Stockholm, 1979

Hulton Getty

(mainly) freshmen engineering students in Introductory Physics. In the excitement and confusion surrounding the award's announcement, he said at the time that, having lived in an "ivory tower" all his life, he was hoping to return to it as soon as possible.

After the prize, he continued his normal duties at Tufts, taking his turn at teaching several of the regular courses in mechanics, optics

and modern physics with the other faculty until his retirement in 1995. After retirement, Allan Cormack continued to use his office in the Tufts Physics Department and maintained many of his professional activities.

David Weaver

Allan MacLeod Cormack, physicist; born Johannesburg, South Africa 23 February 1924; Junior

Lecturer, University of Cape Town 1946-47; Lecturer 1950-56; Research Fellow, Harvard University 1956-57; Assistant Professor of Physics, Tufts University 1957-60; Associate Professor 1960-64; Professor 1964-80; University Professor 1980-94 (Emeritus); Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology 1979; married 1950 Barbara Seavey (one son, two daughters); died Winchester, Massachusetts 7 May 1998.

John Ashton Edwards

TO THOUSANDS of people, John Ashton Edwards was a hero and a determined campaigner for the disabled. He was stricken with polio at the age of 17 and was confined for years to a wheelchair, but he overcame it all by determination, ability and a strong Christian faith.

His academic career began in his native Liverpool when he became a lecturer in public administration at the College of Commerce. Then he was seconded to Nigeria, an experience that enriched his life. He kept contact after his return to England and served as an external examiner with the West African Examination Board.

When he came back to Liverpool he was ready to move, and in 1967 he was appointed to the staff of Sheffield College of Technology as Principal Lecturer in Economics. When it became Sheffield Polytechnic in 1969 he became Dean of the School of Business and Social Studies for three years. As Head of Political Studies he introduced the first CNAA (Council for National Academic Awards) BA in Public Administration.

In 1976 he moved to Leicester Polytechnic (now De Montfort University), where he ended his career. For the last two years, he was Vice-Principal. When he retired in 1981 he moved permanently to the small village of Trefeglys, in the heart of Montgomeryshire, where his mother, who lived to a ripe old age, resided at a large house called The Firs. He was close to his mother, and she was most hospitable, as

I remember on more than one occasion.

Edwards's year of retirement was the Year of the Disabled, and he began really to exercise his considerable dynamism. Soon he became a leading activist of the Montgomeryshire Association for the Disabled. This led him to serve the wider disability movement and in 1985 he was elected Chairman of Disability Wales, which meant frequent travelling to its headquarters in Caerphilly. The Director, Howard John, told me that there were "two John Ashtons" - the formal, firm chairman, and the friendly campaigner after the meetings were over.

He was extremely independent and resisted any help till the end. All his life he gave himself to voluntary causes, from the Liverpool Family Services Unit to playing the organ at the Welsh Presbyterian Church. Above all, he enjoyed fellowship, and invitations to parties, conferences, gatherings and dinners; he was present at the official dinner for the Emperor of Japan who visited Cardiff in early June.

A first-class communicator, he was sought after by the media, and spoke with fluency in English as well as in Welsh on disability issues. He only missed his heavy schedule of meetings for the last week of his life when the pain in his shoulder started to be unbearable.

D. Ben Rees

John Ashton Edwards: lecturer in public administration, university administrator and campaigner for the disabled; born Liverpool 27 March 1926; died Aberystwyth 3 July 1998.

John Ashton Edwards

Lew Chudd

FIFTIES ROCK 'n' roll was torn between the rootsy rhythm 'n' blues of the original black performers and the watered-down teen-idol variety of white middle America. The record company mogul Lew Chudd worked in both these strands and played a major role in the career of leading exponents of both genres.

As the founder and president of the legendary Imperial Records label, he launched the New Orleans boogie-woogie pianist Fats Domino and later struck gold with the teen idol Ricky Nelson. Chudd also discovered the country star Slim Whitman (who, until Bryan Adams's "Everything I Do" came along, had the longest-running British No 1 - 11 weeks - with the yodelling Rose Marie, from Rudolf Friml's operetta of the same title) and gave early exposure to many artists who went on to mainstream success in the Sixties. Over the course of 20 years, releases on Chudd's label ran from novelty records to the doo-wop of the Pelicans, the Dukes, the Barons, the Bees and the Turbans.

Chudd developed his wide-ranging musical tastes and interests while working as an advance promotion man - sticking up posters and drumming up business - for big bands. During the Thirties, he joined the NBC radio network, where he devised the *Let's Dance* show featuring Benny Goodman. He rose through the ranks to head the Los Angeles bureau and in the early Forties worked for the Office of War Information.

In 1946, he started Imperial Records and first concentrated on issuing 78s, 10-inch LPs and four-track EPs aimed at the Mexican and folk music markets around the Los Angeles area. Lalo Guerrero, one of the label's original artists, recalls that "the whole thing started with us Chicanos in a little hole on Western Avenue. But, after they got the black groups, they dropped all the Latinos and Chicanos. Those guys made a fortune and then sold the label to Liberty for a million dollars."

Having branched out into square-dancing records, wedding albums, gypsy music and Dixieland jazz, Chudd began to look further afield into the emerging rhythm 'n' blues market. In 1947, while on a trip to Houston, he met the New Orleans bandleader and arranger Dave Bartholomew, who became his A&R (artists and repertoire) man. The musician was at the hub of a very vibrant scene and introduced the Imperial boss to Fats Domino, a 22-year-old New Orleans piano player who sang with a Creole accent.

Under the stewardship of Chudd and Bartholomew, the rolling boogie-woogie of Fats Domino became one of the characteristic sounds of Fifties rock 'n' roll. "Blueberry Hill", "Blue Monday" and "Walking To New Orleans" conveyed a unique *bonhomie* and *joie de vivre* and defined a whole genre. He went on to sell more than 65 million records. To add to the excitement of Fats Domino's early singles, Chudd got his engineer to speed up the master tapes.

Fats Domino's success acted as a catalyst for the whole New Orleans community while Lew Chudd and Dave Bartholomew promoted the music of the Big Easy to the rest of the world. Jewel King, Jesse Allen, Smilin' Joe, the Spiders, Smiley Lewis (whose rendition of "I Hear You Knockin'" was revived by Dave Edmunds for a UK No 1 in 1970),



Chudd founded Imperial Records in 1946, and sold it to Liberty Records in 1964

'The whole thing started with us Chicanos in a little hole on Western Avenue. But, after they got the black groups, they dropped us. Those guys made a fortune and then sold the label for a million dollars'

among dozens of artists, released sides on Imperial and Chudd also recorded the bluesmen T-Bone Walker, Smokey Hogg and Lightnin' Hopkins.

In 1957, the cute Ricky Nelson was looking to capitalise on the television exposure he received in his parents' sitcom, *The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet*. To milk the teenage market, Nelson cut a version of "I'm Walkin'" which came out on Verve, coupled with "A Teenager's Romance" and became a big hit.

Chudd decided he wanted a piece of that crossover action and lured Nelson to Imperial with a \$250,000 offer. Verve Records sued, but didn't have much of a leg to stand on since Nelson had not signed a contract with the label. Over the next six years, Ricky Nelson scored 20 American Top Forty hits (including No 1s with "Poor Little Fool" and "Travelin' Man/Hello Mary Lou") on Imperial.

In 1958, the Teddy Bears, a quartet

led by Phil Spector, reached No 1 with the haunting "To Know Him Is To Love Him" on the Dore label. Once again, Chudd stepped in with a better offer. The Teddy Bears' three follow-up singles and their only album all flopped, though Phil Spector went on to become a producer and to create the famous "Wall of Sound" behind the Crystals, the Ronettes and the Righteous Brothers.

The following year, Chudd performed the same chequebook trick, signing the drummer Sandy Nelson, who had just had a US hit with "Teen Beat", a one-off single on Original Sound. At his new Imperial home, the instrumentalist scored again with the thumping "Let There Be Drums", a Top Ten smash on both sides of the Atlantic.

Always a shrewd and astute businessman, Chudd made sure Imperial was one of the first labels to issue stereo albums, from the late Fifties onward. Even now, oddities like Alfred Hitch-

cock's *Music To Be Murdered By*, by Jeff Alexander's Orchestra, are much sought after by collectors.

Still in an acquisitive mood, the entrepreneur bought the Aladdin rhythm 'n' blues label in 1961. Founded by Leo Edward and Ida Mesner in 1946, the West Coast-based record company had established itself with doo-wop groups like the Five Keys, the Velvetones and the Squires, and novelty artists such as Shirley & Lee (whose saucy "Let the Good Times Roll" was banned by some DJs) and Thurston Harris (of "Little Bitty Pretty One" fame).

Two years later, Chudd purchased the Minit label he already distributed, from the New Orleans producer Joe Bonashak, thus adding Irma Thomas (the soul voice of the heartbreaking "It's Raining") and Ernie K-Doe (the creator of the hilarious "Mother-In-Law") to his Imperial roster.

Years before other record companies got the consolidating bug, Chudd saw the financial sense in merging the operation of three or four labels of a similar nature and appeal. However, in 1964, he cashed in his chips and sold Imperial and all related imprints to Liberty Records. The label was eventually discontinued in 1970 and absorbed, with Liberty, into United Artists.

Pierre Perrone

Lew Chudd, record company executive; born 1 July 1911; married (two sons); died Los Angeles 15 June 1998.

HISTORICAL NOTES

BETTY KIRKPATRICK

A very un-English English expert

TO MOST of us the name Roget suggests a book - a collection of words arranged according to theme and known as a thesaurus. However, this puts the cart before the horse, since the book is called after its original compiler, Dr Peter Mark Roget.

Roget's work, first published in 1852, made a significant contribution to English-language usage but the average user of his work knows very little about Roget the man. In this respect he is completely different from another historical figure who helped to define and shape the language, the 18th-century lexicographer, Dr Samuel Johnson, author of *A Dictionary of the English Language*. Partly because of the highly subjective, and often amusing, definitions in his dictionary and partly because of the zeal of his biographer, James Boswell, we are aware of several of Johnson's *bona mots* and anecdotes. In the case of Roget we are not so fortunate.

What we do know is that the publication of his great linguistic work was undertaken in his retirement years. He was born in 1773 and the *Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases* was published in 1852. The basic book had, however, been formed long ago when, as a young lecturer, he began to make lists of related words with a view to improving his delivery.

It was not on any aspect of language that Roget was lecturing. One of the surprising things about him is that, although he is today best remembered for his contribution to our linguistic knowledge, he was by profession a doctor of medicine and a scientist and extremely distinguished as both of these. To his contemporaries he was noted for the publication *Animal and Vegetable Physiology, Considered with Reference to Natural Theology*, a work long since faded into obscurity.

There is irony in the fact that it was a scientist and not a language specialist who has brought us such a useful linguistic work, one which has guided so many writers successfully past word blocks. I doubt if any language specialist has performed a comparable service to the scientific world.

Not surprising, though, that it was a scientist who was responsible for the *Thesaurus* since it is based on a sense of order and structure that is more usually found in those with a scientific bent than in



Roget's *Thesaurus* first appeared in 1852

the rest of us. In his scientific, mathematical and medical work Roget was used to marshalling facts and imposing order on them. In his *Thesaurus* he did the same with language.

The early beginnings of what was to become Roget's *Thesaurus* were for Roget's own use. In the preface to the first edition he writes that 50 years before the completed *Thesaurus* first saw light of day he had "completed a classed catalogue of words on a small scale" and had done so "conceiving that such a compilation might help to supply my own deficiencies".

To what extent the young Roget was deficient in language skills I am not in a position to judge. Perhaps he was being modest but perhaps he did indeed find that he lacked the ready skill with words that he had with facts and numbers.

There is more irony in relation to Roget and his *Thesaurus*. It is that this man who has made such a huge contribution to the English language was markedly un-English in his ancestry. His father was a Genevan pastor who came to London to live and his mother's grandfather was a French Huguenot who had sought refuge in Britain. Roget was brought up in the French Protestant community - perhaps this contributed to his determination to perfect his mastery of the English language.

Whatever the reason we are grateful to this determination since it resulted in such a masterpiece.

Betty Kirkpatrick is the editor of *Roget's Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases* (Penguin, £14.99)

August, the month of 'squashed dog' stories

THE INDEPENDENT ARCHIVE

3 AUGUST 1988

The French like the idea of a security ring round the hospital to repel people intent on killing the pig. This is the Britain they recognise

ALL OVER Paris the shutters are up. You can tell how many families from any particular building are on holiday by looking up at the windows from the street outside. The French are still locked into a system of the August holiday.

This year the first day of August was a Monday. In other countries that would mean that people would start their holidays on the previous Friday evening. But 40 per cent of departing Parisians delayed their departure last weekend until the Monday. That was when their bookings started and until then they stayed at home. The result was the usual infernal traffic jam. Only the very grandest people stayed until 2 August and so avoided the traffic at the cost of one day on the beach.

The news in August takes on a different tempo. This is the month of "squashed dog" stories. In Britain they used to be called "goldfish emerging from bathroom tap" stories. But in late 20th century, when the summer holidays are studded with rape, fire and flood, these traditional nicknames seem naive.

The month began with news of an attack on an old man in Pas-de-Calais carried out by a swarm of bees. The scenario might have pleased Hitchcock. The victim was sunning himself in his garden at the time. The firemen were called but were driven back into their vans by the ferocity of the insects. After 45 minutes someone arrived with protective clothing and insecticide. By then the man sitting in the deckchair was dead, covered in hundreds of stings, most of them on his eyelids. His children have started a civil case against their neighbours

on the grounds that hees seldom attack without a reason.

From Lourdes comes rare good news: there have been numerous miracles. During the visit of 20,000 pilgrims belonging to a charismatic organisation known as The Lion of Judah, 12 sick people are said to have been cured. This story recalls the great days of the Lourdes pilgrimage. In the summer of 1897 the Assumptionist Fathers who led the annual French national pilgrimage to the shrine assembled 1,000 priests to chant the *Confiteor*. The director of the pilgrimage then turned on the sick pilgrims and ordered them to rise and walk. Amid scenes of wild enthusiasm, 41 incurable invalids obeyed his instructions.

The church authorities in Lourdes have long since discouraged such demonstrations and refuse to describe any cures as "miraculous" until they have been investigated over a period of years. One of those apparently cured this year was a doctor and mother of four from Lyons, paralysed for many years

by arthritis. Another was a man paralysed for 19 years by a slipped disc. Another was a four-year-old English girl, paralysed and speechless since birth; she was able to walk a few steps and utter sounds.

The normal procedure at Lourdes if someone claims to have been cured is for an investigation to be started at the medical bureau. But the charismatics of The Lion of Judah have decided not to bother with this. They are content with the event. So the credulous or sceptical onlooker will be denied his scientific investigation and left with his original prejudices. From the point of view of those cured, the objective proof hardly matters.

Even the news from Britain has taken on a slightly whimsical air. The French are very interested in the story from Dulwich about grafting a pig's kidneys on to a human patient. They go for the animal rights angle. They like the idea of putting a security ring round the hospital to repel people who are intent on rescuing the pig from disembowment. This is the Britain they recognise and laugh at, in a kindly sort of way.

France, on the other hand, is still a country where there is money to be made by inventing faster ways of stuffing a live goose. Fortunately the French do not know what the animal rights movement thinks of *pâté de foie gras*, or their laughter might die down rather suddenly.

Patrick Marnham

From 'Out of France' in *The Independent*, Wednesday 3 August 1988. The *Law Report* resumes with the *Law Term* in October

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

BIRTHS

FEAKES: On 28 July 1998, at Kingston, to Lynne and Michael, a son, William Rhyss Gethin.

McNEILLAGE: On 29 July 1998, to Angela (nee Sandeman) and Angus, a beautiful son, Rory Alexander Fergus, a brother for James and Charlie.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion Welsh Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Scots Guards.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, obituaries, obituary notices, notices, notices, notices) are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Always include a daytime telephone number.

BIRTHDAYS

Mr Richard Adler, composer, 77; Sir John Anson, senior civil servant, 68; Mr Osvaldo Ardiles, football manager, 45; Air Marshal Sir Peter Baird, 72; Mr Tony Bennett, singer, 72; Mr Steven Berkoff, actor and director, 61; Lt-Gen Sir Alexander Boswell, former Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey, 70; Sir Paul Bryan, former MP, 85; Mrs Elizabeth Chilver, former Principal, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, 84; Mr Peter Easterby, racehorse trainer, 69; Mr Josh Gifford, racehorse trainer, 57; Mr Nick Harvey MP, 37; Baroness James of Holland Park (PD, James), author, 78; Professor Anthony Jones, Co-Chief Executive, and President of the School of Art, Art Institute of Chicago, 54; Lord Philip, a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 56; Mr Anthony Sampson, writer and journalist, 72; Sir David Scott, former diplomat, 79; Mr Martin Sheen, actor, 58; Miss Sue Slipman, director, Gas Consumers' Council, 49; Mr Jack Straw MP, Home Secretary, 52; Sir Jock Taylor, chairman, Siemens Ltd, 74; Sir George Waller, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 87; The Right Rev Dr Roger Wilson, former Bishop of Chichester, 93; Mr Terry Wogan, broadcaster, 60.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: James Wyatt, architect, 1746; Charles Stanhope, third Earl Harrington, politician and scientist, 1753; Sir Joseph Paxton, architect and landscape gardener, 1801; Elisha Graves Otis, inventor of the safety lift, 1811; Sir George Gabriel Stokes, mathematician and physicist, 1819; Francisco Asenjo Barbieri, composer, 1823; Frederic Clay, composer, 1840; Juliana Horatia Ewing, writer of children's books, 1841; Stanley Baldwin, first Earl Baldwin of Bewdley, statesman, 1867; King Haakon VII of Norway, 1872; Louis Gruenberg, composer, 1884; Rupert Chawner Brooke, poet, 1887; Walter Van Tilburg Clark, western writer, 1909.

Deaths: James II, King of Scotland, killed 1460; Grinling Gibbons, sculptor and wood carver, 1721; Thomas Godfrey, American colonial poet and playwright, 1763; Etienne Bonnot de Condillac, philosopher and writer, 1780; Sir Richard Arkwright, inventor of the spinning frame, 1792; Pierce Egan the Elder, sporting writer, 1845; Marie-Joseph Eugene Sue, novelist, 1857; Joachim Ventura, Jesuit preacher, 1861; Joseph Severn, painter, 1879; William George Fargo, a founder of the Wells-Fargo

express company, 1881; Jean-Louis Charles Garnier, architect, 1898; Augustus Saint-Gaudens, sculptor, 1907; Reinhold Begas, sculptor, 1911; Sir Roger David Casement, Irish nationalist, executed for treason 1916; Joseph Conrad (Jozef Teodor Konrad Nalecz Korzeniowski), novelist, 1924; Albert Frederick Pollard, historian, 1943; Sidonie-Gabrielle Colette, novelist, 1954; Paul Goodman, novelist, playwright and poet, 1972; Archbishop Makarios III, President of Cyprus, 1977; Ida Lupino, actress, producer and writer, 1995.

On this day: Hannibal won a victory over Rome at Cannae, 216 BC; Christopher Columbus left Palos in Andalusia, Spain, on his first voyage to America, 1492; Hudson's Bay was discovered by Henry Hudson, 1610; the trial of Eugene Aram, murderer, took place at York, 1759; La Scala opera house in Milan was opened, 1778; the first recorded cricket match between Eton and Harrow was played, 1805; the cornet was first used in an orchestra, employed in Paris for *William Tell*, which was first presented, 1829; the uprising in Paris, known as the July Revolution, ended, 1830;

John Hanning Speke discovered the source of the river Nile to be Lake Victoria, 1858; British marines occupied Suez, 1882; British troops under Colonel Younghusband and General Macdonald entered the forbidden city of Lhasa, Tibet, 1904; the first ship passed through the Panama Canal, 1914; Germany declared war on France, 1914; the London Pavilion, previously a music hall, opened as a theatre, 1918; Lt John Macready carried out the first aerial crop-dusting operation at Troy, Ohio, 1921; in Germany, Adolf Hitler became "Der Führer", 1934; Latvia became part of the Soviet Union, 1940; Whittaker Chambers, an editor for *Time* magazine, named Alger Hiss, a former US State Department official, as a member of the Communist underground, 1948; the Council of Europe was inaugurated, 1949; the first VTOL aircraft - "The Flying Bedstead" - was flown in Britain, 1954; the US nuclear-powered submarine *Nautilus* made its first undersea crossing of the North Pole, 1958; the French colony of Niger became independent, 1960.

Today is the Feast Day of St Germanus of Auxerre, St Thomas of Hales or Dover, St Waltheof or Waltheof.

WORDS

WILLIAM HARTSTON millennium, n.

has a double "n". Centenary, on the other hand, comes from *centenarius*, composed of a hundred items, which has nothing to do with *annus* at all. The good

news is that misspelt millennium are on the decrease. In both 1993 and 1994, spellings with one "n" in our database occurred at a rate of 14.4 per cent, but the figure has declined every year since: 9.9 per cent in 1995, 6.5 in 1996, and 5.2 in 1997. So far this year, the rate is 3.2 per cent. Excluding computer adverts.

You start off saying, 'I am flexible'. Then you say, 'I have lots of gay friends'. Then you say, 'I'm bisexual'. And finally its: 'Help! I'm a lesbian!' Why do wives leave their husbands for other women? By Tessa Souter

It's so much better than marriage

Dalis Walker has known her husband since she was nine years old. "He is absolutely my best friend. We were neighbours. I enjoyed hanging out with him. He is very much a part of my family. It was a question of, do I go with passion or do I marry my friend?" At the time she was only vaguely aware that she might be a lesbian. "I grew up in a very typical suburban upper class family where there was no gay community so I didn't have a frame of reference for it." Her husband, James, knew that she was attracted to other women but, like many men, didn't really perceive it as a threat. "He knew that I might want to investigate my attraction to other women some time and although he wouldn't be crazy about it, he wouldn't say no."

They were great friends but something was always missing for Dalis sexually and a few years into the marriage she began going to lesbian bars and making friends in the gay community, imagining that she could have affairs and remain with James. "I knew [James and I] had a great connection so for me the issue was who I was going to have sex with." What she didn't anticipate was how she would feel on a non-sexual level. Her first affair with a woman was an epiphany. "The things James and I had talked about and the way we were with each other had been so satisfying until I found it with another woman. It was so much more enriching, deep and connected, and then the whole sexual thing fell into place."

Within months she had met and fallen in love with her present girlfriend. "It's the intimacy. She kind of reminds me of my husband but our daily life, the chores and how we truly enjoy hanging out with each other, it is everything I had in my marriage but so much more," she says. "The ideal situation now would be for my girlfriend and I to live happily ever after and for my husband to maintain a close relationship to both of us. I've even talked to him about the possibility of donating sperm and he's agreed." But the breakup wasn't entirely painless. "He decided to love and support me through it but it was very hard on James because he didn't have a choice," says Dalis. "I felt terribly guilty about that. But I think it would have been really hard for him if it had been a guy."

Bill Hollins, whose wife Gill left him for another woman after ten years, agrees. "It made it easier that it was a woman. I think I'd have been jealous of another man. The chances are I'd have felt more wounded and



Ben Affleck and lesbian lover Joey Lauren Adams in 'Chasing Amy'. 'Having a relationship with a man is like wearing your shoes on the wrong feet'

made to feel small because then you make comparisons, don't you?" In Bill's case the breakup was relatively painless, emotionally, even though they had been together a long time. The children also adapted very quickly. "The new partner had been on the scene for a while as a visitor to the house and they liked her, so when their mum moved in with her they just went along and set up their own little bedrooms," says Bill. "I don't think they knew what gay meant. The women made it their business to tell them and to explain that, you know, there's nothing wrong with it." Bill's parents had a harder time. "In the end I had to say,

'Look, Mum, they're not dangerous!' Marci, 27, told her husband Sean that she was bisexual when they first met. It was what she believed. "I didn't realise that you could identify as lesbian and still wear stockings and makeup and skirts and all those things until I learned about the concept of being 'femme'," she says. "You start off saying, 'I am flexible.' Then you say, 'I have lots of gay friends.' Then you say, 'I'm bisexual.' And finally you say, 'Oh my God! I'm a lesbian!'" Marci's epiphany came when Sean accepted a job that took him away from home for nine months and she met a woman and had an affair. At first he didn't mind.

"In fact, he really liked her and they are still good friends. I have been out with about three other women and we'd all go out to dinner and it would be like he had two dates. But as my girlfriends got more and more butch he lost patience with it. When your date looks like she could kick his ass, it's a bit different."

Even so, it was Marci's decision to split up. "My husband offered to let me see women on the side, but now I feel it would be a huge step back for me to be involved with a man again. Having a relationship with a man is like wearing your shoes on the wrong feet. You walk around like that all the time and you

don't realise. But when you switch shoes it's like, 'Oh yeah!'" she says. "I prefer the company of women. We have that much more in common." And when it comes to sex: "Women know how everything works because they have the same set," she says. "They're not so orgasm driven. You know how with a guy, they will do everything - at first, well, with a woman that just doesn't go away."

"One of the things about dating women is that there are so few boundaries," says 35-year-old Sheryl, who had never even had lesbian leanings until she fell in love with her present girlfriend a year after leav-

ing her husband. "Women's communication skills are so strong and their ability to have intimacy is so much more developed. To meet someone who loves to talk, who loves to debrief, who has insight, who loves the same things you do - we cook together and planted a garden together - it's so different." It is that level of communication and intimacy, as much as anything, that makes the sex so good. "I felt like I had good mature sexual relationships before, but with Nancy the intensity of the connection is so much stronger. It was as if heterosexual sex had been about 10 per cent of what's possible and all of a sudden I saw this other 90 per cent."

But it's not all about sex, says Marci. "It's much more of a companionship and a chance to have a relationship with more parity. The excellent sex is just a bonus." Nevertheless, Marci doesn't believe that her marriage broke down solely because of her lesbianism. "There were exacerbating circumstances. I don't think you can steal something that can't be stolen and, to tell you the truth, I was lonely and emotionally vulnerable," she says. "I would probably give this advice to a man: if your wife is really that lonely and that vulnerable, keep her the hell away from women!"

'I don't want revenge. I want the truth'

Police officers battered Nigerian Shiji Lapite to death in the street. The CPS decided not prosecute. If only it was an isolated case. By Sebastian Naidoo

HIS LARYNX was crushed, his body bruised, his mouth split open and his head turned to pulp. Shiji Lapite, a 34-year-old Nigerian asylum seeker, died after a violent struggle on a north London street in 1994.

Mr Lapite's widow has been in a limbo of shock for the last four years. This is not only due to his brutal death, but from the knowledge of how he came to be so battered. She heard Stoke Newington police officers describe how they kicked and hit her husband, and gripped him in a neckhold deemed lethal by police guidelines. The inquest jury decided he was unlawfully killed.

Ms Lapite, a mother of two, had expected this evidence to lead to a criminal trial. But the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) dropped the case in 1996 and her own ordeal dragged on into 1997. High Court judges sent shockwaves through the CPS last July by calling its decision not to prosecute "flawed and should be quashed". An inquiry looked into the CPS's decision-making in the case, but concluded that no officers would stand trial.

Worn down by grief, Ms Lapite is drained of words. "She's been numb," says Sajida Malik, a family friend who chairs the Shiji Lapite Memorial Committee. "She feels it's her fault. She was the one who wanted to come to this country." Last

week the Home Office published research which shows that black people are more likely to die in custody "from police actions". Eight of the 10 people unlawfully killed in the past 20 years were black. Six of them died in police custody.

With a disproportionate number of black people dying in police custody, bereaved black families carry the burden of doubt. "These deaths disproportionately involve violence, so black families need extra advice," says Helen Shaw, who works at Inquest, a support and monitoring group which is often the first port of call for families facing inquests.

"What's shocking is the failure of the authorities to inform families about their rights," says Raju Bhatt, a solicitor. "They... are victims of a potential crime. So they [should be] entitled to the same courtesies and information as any other victim."

Instead, families see a jungle of bureaucracy. After a police custody death, a senior officer is appointed to liaise with the family. Officers from another force then carry out an investigation under the supervision of the Police Complaints Authority (PCA). These findings are not released until there is an inquest. An inquest is held if the CPS decides there is not enough evidence to prove criminal responsibility.

"We've been given the run-around



Shiji Lapite's widow and cousin outside the coroner's court

by various authorities so it's been very difficult to grieve," says Sandra Downes, whose 20-year-old son Marlon was found hanged in Haringey police station last year. Ms Downes, 37, felt brushed aside in the run-up to the inquest held this year. "I'm angry at being dependent on others."

"The only assurance I can give a family is that when it reaches the inquest, police officers will be brought in to answer questions which have been in their minds from the outset," says Mr Bhatt. With no legal aid for inquests, families are forced to raise private funds or seek lawyers through groups such as Inquest or the Newham Monitoring Project. When they reach the coroner's court, hopes are often dashed, especially if they expect the rigorous cross-questioning of a criminal court.

A family's legal team at an inquest relies on the coroner's discretion for release of evidence. Even then, police officials can refuse to disclose findings. For Mr Bhatt, this is intoler-

able: "Families do not need to be put through this torture. There are reforms which can help." Sanctions due to be launched next spring by the Home Secretary look set to remove the privileges to which officers have grown accustomed. But Jack Straw's bid to bring the police service "more in line with normal employment practices in other fields" - stops short of changing the rules which govern the release of police reports. According to Mr Straw, the issue of disclosure needs further work.

Inquest sees this as weak political will. Ms Shaw has called for a public inquiry into all controversial deaths in custody. Black families may not be invited to the conference on police custody deaths planned by the PCA for October, but they are spearheading a campaign to demand justice for their loved ones.

"I'm not after punishment, I want the truth," says Ladi Lapite, Olamide's cousin. "There is a justice not of this world. Shiji's killers can't hide from that."

Sure it's pretty. But what actually is there to do?

WHAT WITH house-hunters from Hammersmith and all, I was pretty tired of doing the hard sell on rural delights even before Harvey arrived. My friend Harvey is a little environmentally challenged. Born, raised, and progressing towards early and lucrative retirement entirely within the city limits of New York, he doesn't understand green.

Harvey has the same attitude towards the countryside as most of us have to death: he knows it exists but he doesn't really believe in it. So, for the first 24 hours of his visit, he regarded everything with the deepest scepticism, like Agent Dale Cooper entering the spirit world in *Twin Peaks*. But, after a day of immersion in fields, windy lanes and dripping gardens the awful reality of large spaces devoid of cinemas and Mongolian restaurants dawned cold and hard.

"Sure, I can see it's pretty," he said, looking out of my kitchen window. "But what is there to do in it?"

"OK," I said. "What do you want? Theatre? Jazz? Classical? Just name it and you can do it here, in the countryside." He's never been a man to let a person off the hook easily. "All of 'em. And maybe some opera."

"Fine," I said without even flinching. Rash, Doug gave me "the raised eyebrow", a sign of deep disapproval that I've only seen used on other people.

The theatre part was easy. We just rolled up to the school for a performance given by a professional touring company, a love story featuring some giant beans and a singing tomato. The cultural highlight of the evening

IN THE STICKS

STEVIE MORGAN

came during the final tableau when all the kids ran round the side of the stage to see if the hero and heroine were "really snogging" behind the screen of outside veg. Morgan twined slightly when Bunny told him earnestly that she thought that the principals "hadn't even been acting" during their climactic clinch.

The jazz could have been more successful: Big Name and His Band playing in idyllic surroundings of a National Trust garden. But it was a tad damp, and the Big Name feared he might, as Morgan put it, "zap his own ass" with naughty electricity escaping into the surrounding wetness. So, without hearing a single note, we trundled back to the car.

Doug and the kids wimped out on the Friday Classical Challenge night. "Simpsons," said Buster. "TFI," said Doug. "Top of the Pops," said Bunny. So I drove for an hour to take Harvey to hear a programme of music including *The Blue Danube* and *Pomp and Circumstances* and concluding with the entire audience singing "Land of Hope and Glory".

I was feeling a little crestfallen in the car on the way home. Harvey didn't say much. He is a true friend after all, in spite of his urban fixations. "Will we be back in time for Frazier?" he asked.

I decided to admit defeat on the opera front. But there was one last cultural experience I felt sure I could provide: good

conversation round a dinner-table. So, on Harvey's last night with us, I proudly assembled a selection of friends. An instrument-maker, a sculptor, a painter, a master of wine, a journalist and a furniture designer to prove that talking and thinking about the world's great issues was what we did in the "priddy" countryside.

I tried hard. I asked them what they thought of the Leeds art students, Orange Parades and genetically-interfered-with cabbages. They looked at me as if I had called the Queen Mother a common whore at a WI meeting. They wanted to do what it is we really do for fun around here, which is talk about our dogs and our gardens. Harvey looked on as he might over a gathering of head-hunters in Papua New Guinea, as they swapped horror stories of slugs shinning up walls to munch the delphiniums and rabbits ravaging the sweet peas. I could hardly bear to listen as the sculptor enthusiastically told Morgan about how Dandy, his bull terrier, got into the fridge.

"Ate a pound of cheddar, a packet of butter, half a pint of mayonnaise; polished it off with a bottle of peach liqueur. We found her unconscious under the lilacs." Just give me the peach liqueur - passing out under a bush seemed an attractive option. I decided instead to go for some quality time with my tomato plants. As I snuck out, the painter was explaining how her sheepdog has taken to howling along with Maria Callas arias on the CD.

Oh well, I suppose Harvey did get his opera in the end.

Her drinking fuelled my creativity

A FAMILY AFFAIR

THIS WEEK, A MOTHER AND DAUGHTER TALK ABOUT SUPPORTING EACH OTHER'S CREATIVE CAREERS

Author, journalist and artist Molly Parkin, 66, was born in South Wales. She was fashion editor of *NOVA* magazine and then went onto *Harpers* and *The Sunday Times*. Her daughter Sophie, 37, is also an artist and author. She has a son and a daughter and lives in London.

Shaving a creative bond is the latest development in my relationship with Sophie. She's now finishing her second book and is halfway through her third. Sophie has always been a highly creative child; she went to art school at seventeen and was very much like myself as a child - interested in writing, illustrating and drawing. She also had a baby and started writing at the same age as I did.

Sophie's writing took root when she split up with her partner and came back from Spain with two small children. She and I lived together in Earls Court. At that time I was writing my autobiography. It was valuable for her to see me working with total dedication.

When she did start writing, I didn't give her any advice at all. I was thrilled when I did read the scraps she had written. It was a story of a child with an alcoholic parent and I thought it was very good. I think we must all validate our own childhoods. I've had an alcoholic past and seen my mother go in and out of mental homes; you do turn your life and experience into material.

I found it daunting at first that Sophie was writing, then inspiring. She had a huge reception with her first novel. I thought, "Oh my God!" - it's like handing over the reins. That's maybe how Kingsley Amis felt when Martin started writing.

Sophie's little girl is also highly creative; she's been a huge help to me. The older you get, the more likely you are to give something too much thought. Since alcoholism, I've had to build up my social ide-

ty as well as my own creativity. Sometimes the thought processes can get in the way. The spontaneity of grandchildren is very helpful, just because of the freedom in their approach. Even when I used to drink, I always had to be sober in order to write. The example of seeing Sophie with her tremendous work discipline really influenced me. It's nice to have that type of support within the family - she is hugely sympathetic.

What's lovely is when you can see this creativity coming through in another generation, especially the girls. I feel so strongly about female bonds in families. When you're friends with your mother, it means you can trust other females. It's a blessed thing to have. With Sophie, having our work in common is an additional bonus. We've come through so much together and it's a lovely feeling. It's plain sailing now.

Sophie
I've been very influenced by my mother's creativity. When she used to drink, she could so easily have gone off in another direction. Yet she was very disciplined. I think if you see that as a child, you absorb it as a possibility. In my family there is this understanding that you follow your heart; never to settle for what you're given but to go after what you want. I've never had a proper job in my life and I would never have a job in an office. But my mother always says, "Do what you love". It's a fallacy that you can't earn money by doing what you really like.

When I split up with the father of my kids six years ago, I came back from Spain and my mum was working on her autobiography. I'd been a painter up until then and I'd never written properly. Seeing her being so committed and professional made me understand that if you're going to start writing, you must do it professionally otherwise you're just playing; you're not taking it or your-

self seriously. Creativity within a family means there's a special understanding. If you go to friends who are fellow creative beings, there's always going to be an element of competitiveness; a slight little edge on anything you discuss. But with relations, there aren't those hidden agendas. We write very different stuff anyway, although we both have the same sense of humour.

Many novelists have a bad time about being found out for the real-life origins of their material, but my mother can't criticise me for that. She's written about the same area and we've gone through so much of it in public.

You can learn from other people's mistakes. I've watched my mother go through turmoil during the alcoholic part of her life. Consequently, I know I would never be able to go down that road. Not only because of the effect it would have on my children - as it did on me - but because of the effect it would have on my creativity.

There's a belief that alcohol feeds productivity, when it does the exact opposite. I'm so proud that she has overcome the demon drink and is back to being the best she always was. It's great to see the kids staying with her in Wales while I'm trying to finish my book. She'll be off doing her writing and they'll have some space on their own. They understand that work can be part of home life; that you don't have to wear a suit and go to an office.

I think what makes our friendship is that we don't just exist within the realm of the mother-daughter relationship. It does exist now, but it's more in the past. We've moved into a mature way of perceiving one another - there isn't any jealousy, just mutual encouragement because we're both in the same game.

All Grown Up by Sophie Parkin is published by Review (Hodder Headline) on 11 August

INTERVIEWS BY EMMA COOK



Molly and Sophie Parkin have developed a mutually supportive relationship as writers

John Timbers

Is interior decoration the new rock'n'roll?

Continued from page 1
Tell me, is Carol Smilie entirely perfect? "She can work like a packhorse if she likes the scheme." No cellulite, then? "Not that I've noticed." Does she have to wear the pants from M&S that keep your tummy in? "I really wouldn't know."

What we do all know is that *Changing Rooms* is a potent mix, taking as it does interior design, aspirational DIY and voyeurism, and shaking it up with a good measure of human relations. Most enjoyably, things don't always go right - or even turn out nice - and there are tears. And when this happens, Laurence has usually had something to do with it.

Last Thursday, for example, we saw a woman called Susan burst into tears when she saw how he'd transformed her extension into a plum-red quasi-Queen Anne dining room featuring a mock fireplace and portraits of herself and her husband as Nell Gwyn and Samuel Pepys.

Laurence, you were taking the piss, weren't you?

"No. NO! I thought she would really like it. I was very upset when she didn't. I had to confine myself to my chaise-longue for four days, smoking Turkish cigarettes and eating chocolate." In a previous series, a south London couple complained that his scarlet walls, zebra-patterned panels and animal print cushions turned their lounge into "a whore's palace".

His taste does seem to be very Readers' Wives. It's funny, now I think about it, that you never seem to get good interiors with porn. Possibly, it further occurs to me, there may even be a gap in the market for a publication called, say, "House & Tart". Certainly, it would be more entertaining than *Wallpaper*, which even Laurence has to accept, is a bit over the top. "It's impractical design for people who will rush to Stockholm for a pillowcase."

Anyway, Laurence, what do you think of the design here so far?

"Deborah," he replies, "there is no design. It's Hiroshima. There's junk everywhere! Think storage, storage, storage. Think coffee-tables that open up so you can put things in them."

Laurence, I say, my trouble is that, while I want things to be nice, I can't think storage, storage, storage or coffee-tables

that open up so you can put things in them. Art can move me. Music can move me. Literature can move me. But design, I'm afraid, cannot - unless, of course, it's a good design for a bus. I can't help thinking a sofa is for lying on, not for replacing with something lime-green and inflatable that's going to go BANG! the first time you nod off while having a fag.

OK - I do, occasionally, try to be game. I once bought *Elle Decoration*, but just the act

quite a good time. We talk about architecture, and his theory that Britain doesn't have much good architecture because we've over had a despotic regime. "Look at any country that has had a despotic regime. The most magnificent palaces..." We talk about World of Leather. Laurence, they have these huge sites, but whenever you go past there never seem to be any customers in there. How do they survive? "Perhaps they do a lot over the

which meant asking the next-door farmer to swap the black and white cows in his field for buff ones, because 'they didn't go with the scheme'. Their two daughters are Cecile, three, and Hermione, who was born just last week - and looks like a little woodland creature. Cecile is very much his daughter. "She's already started colourwashing the bathroom cabinet with toothpaste."

He is quite famous now, and only has to take Cecile to the park to be "acclaimed by people who want to know how to light up their living-rooms". Once, in a night-club in Aberdeen, he found himself suddenly surrounded by teenagers wanting to know what colour they should paint their ceilings. "It was a bit difficult to answer, what with 'Oops Upside Your Head' going on in the background. I think I just yelled 'PURPLE' at them all." He addresses the attention, of course.

Although of Welsh extraction, he was born and brought up in Dulwich, south London. His father, Trevor Llewellyn-Bowen, was a renowned orthopaedic surgeon, who died of leukaemia when Laurence was nine. Laurence never got to know him well, and has few memories of him. He was quite distant, at work all the time. "The only thing I remember was having to tour his wards on Christmas mornings." His mother, Patricia, was a "feisty teacher" who did a lot of work in London's slum areas. She now has MS and is wheelchair-bound, "but you can still slice cheese with her brain. She lives in a nursing home that she also seems to run."

He was quite arty as a kid, yes, but thought, initially, he would be a lawyer - right up until his O-levels, "when I suffered from a massive attack of laziness. I knew A-levels would be a step too far."

He enrolled at Camberwell College of Art, where he did big, narrative, historical paintings and grew his hair and cuffs long. Then it was a job in an art gallery, a marketing position with a rubber flooring company, then a job with a top interior design company, which he left in 1989 to go it alone. His first-ever client? A Mrs Steele in Eaton Square "who'd just bought the house off Lulu". He did "big curtains and rag-rolling" for her.

Do you ever, Laurence, feel sorry for people who have to



Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen

Glynn Griffiths

tired me out. I can't cope with the built-in obsolescence of things. You know, people who rag-rolled in peaches and corals five years ago look like total fools today, don't they? "Oh yes, rag-rolling couldn't be more out." Dragging? "OUT. Colourwashing? "OUT. I don't believe in worrying paint as a collier worries sheep." Stencil? "There will always be room for stenciling." Ikea bathroom cabinets assembled upside down? "Um... interesting." Conran stuff? "Fine for label slaves who want to buy into that lifestyle." Feng shui? "I'm more into vastu shastra." Bless you! "It's the Hindu version of feng shui, actually." See! See! Feng shui - the ancient art of not putting things where you are going to trip over them - isn't even in any more! "But why, when you paint your balustrades, should it be for life? It only costs £15 to paint a room, you know. Now, can I use your bathroom?" "Top of the stairs." "Crash! Um... I seem to have had an accident in your lavatory..."

Laurence is quite funny and bright. I am starting to have

employ you to tell them what their taste is? "No, no. It's not like that. Most people have very strong tastes. They know what they want to do. They just want a doctor's certificate to say: 'OK, go ahead and do it.' What's the biggest budget you've ever worked with? "£14m for a house in Mayfair, which included a Thunderbirds-style swimming-pool. But that's obscene, I cry. "I know," he cries. Happily.

A quick tour of the rest of the

house. The things that especially impressed him were: the bits of Lego and lost Subbuteo players that crunched underfoot, the complete lack of wardrobes in the bedrooms ("This isn't a house! It's a jumble sale!"; the school-made calendar decorated with dried pasta ("It wouldn't be so bad, but it's 1995!"), and, of course, the kitchen floor. "I really does need some attention."

He and Jonathan then leave. Big kisses all round, mwah,

mwah! Then my boys, who had, I think, been hiding round the corner until it was safe to return, do so. "Mummy, was that man, a GIRL or WHAT?" Quiet, darling. Just need to talk to Daddy.

I am quite fired up. We must do this to the bedroom, I say, and that to the bathroom, and think storage, and convert the cellar and re-do the hall and build a conservatory and subscribe to *House Beautiful* and GET RID OF THE KITCHEN

FLOORING. OK, says my husband, who takes a corner of the old lino, rips it off in a great big sheet, and throws it out of the window. (Our new, bare concrete and old bits of floorboard kitchen floor is featured in this month's "World of Completely Crap Interiors", which can be found below "House & Tart", but is no less entertaining for that.) "That's that, then," he says, "See what I mean now about interior design being more trouble than it's worth?"

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Legal Notices

GROUMS CONTROLLED WASTE SERVICES LIMITED
This is to certify that a meeting of the creditors and contributors of the above named company held on 24.7.98 at the offices of Messrs Rogers & Turner, 24, Bedford Square, London, WC1N 3AU, pursuant to the provisions of the Insolvency Act 1986, and that the company is now in liquidation.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF CPS EUROPE LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
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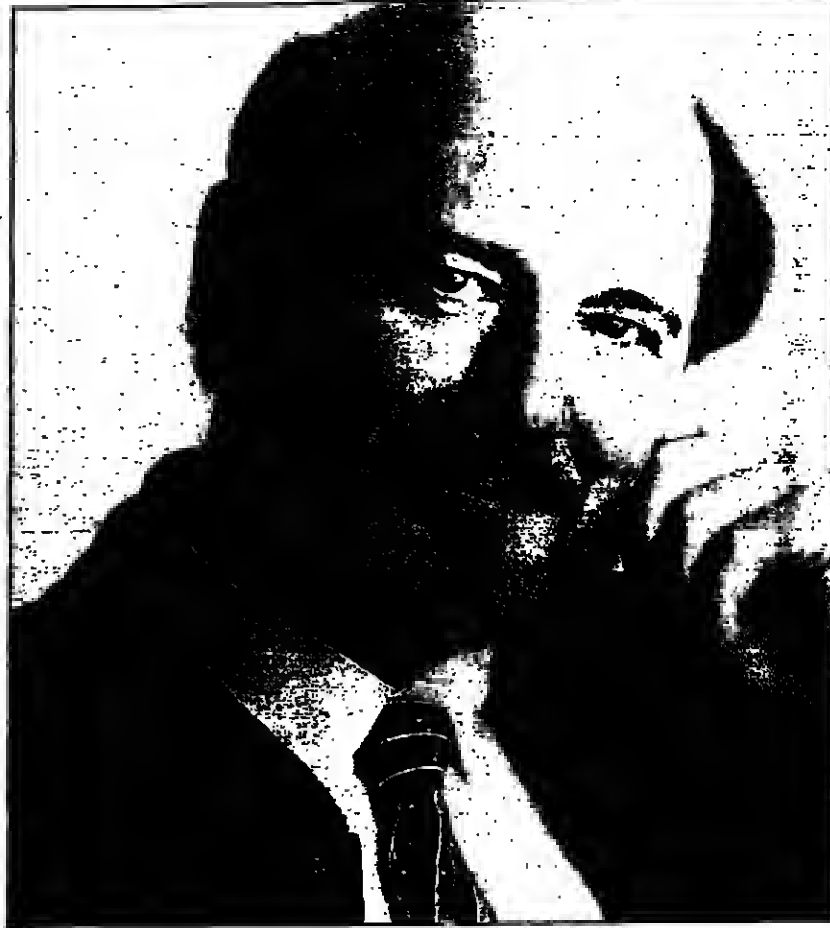
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The third man reconstructed

A new radio drama which charts the birth of the classic film *Citizen Kane* brings together some exceptional talents to portray three giants of stage and screen. The play's director, Ned Chaillet, talks about the history of the actors, and characters, involved



Left to right: John Houseman, eminent figure of American theatre; Orson Welles in his most famous role in 'Citizen Kane'; actor David Ogden Stiers, best known for his part in 'M.A.S.H.', recreates Houseman in 'Victorville'

John Houseman was my mentor for more than 25 years," says David Ogden Stiers of the actor, director and author who was a fundamental figure in American drama from the Thirties until his death in 1988. "I would not want to do anything that was untrue to his character."

Which is why it was a high-risk strategy to ask him to play John Houseman in a new play for radio by the Canadian-American dramatist Marcy Kahan. If the words were untruthful for any of the three characters in her play, we would be in for a rough ride. For the play is about one of the most famous, and most crucial, collaborations in the history of the cinema – the weeks of austere discipline near the town of Victorville on the edge of the Mojave Desert where Houseman was editor, keeper and companion to Herman J. Mankiewicz who was writing *Citizen Kane* for Orson Welles.

Welles struggled in vain to keep the pretence that he had written the screenplay by himself, and Mankiewicz was able to take some pleasure when the 1941 movie won only one Academy Award, for Best Screenplay. It was Mankiewicz's highest achievement, and possibly Welles's, but it is only recently that Houseman's key role as third writer has been routinely acknowledged. (Houseman himself refused to take credit, except for showing some special pride in the News on the March sequence. He was prouder of his success in keeping Mank sober.)

Houseman and Welles had achieved extraordinary success together before *Citizen Kane*. They had founded the Mercury Theatre, produced *Julius Caesar* in legendary modern dress, set *Macbeth* in Haiti with an all-black cast and, on radio, terrified North America with their production of *H.G. Wells's War of the Worlds*. Orson Welles was not yet 25, Houseman was his senior by 14 years.

After *Citizen Kane*, however, Houseman returned to his own career leaving Welles in pyrotechnical freefall. It left Welles embittered: "I have only one real enemy in my life that I know about," he told Richard Meryman, author of the Mankiewicz biography *Mank*. "And that is John Houseman. Everything begins and ends with the hostility behind the marauder's benevolence."

The enmity was Welles's convenient memory of a tempestuous separation he had greatly instigated. The Houseman that David Stiers found as his mentor was the Houseman who became familiar to film audiences as an actor, winning an Academy Award himself for his performance in the 1973 film, *The Paper Chase*. (Displaying a voice which is uncannily evoked by Stiers, and which was described by the *New York Daily News* as "a measured, thought-filled, erudite rumble".)

Houseman, born in Bucharest, educated at Clifton College in England, and perfectly formed in talent to the boy genius Welles for some three years – which included the proletarian musical, *The Cradle Will Rock*, closed by the police in 1936 and the story of which is about to become a major motion picture by Tim Robbins – was also the man who planted a classical theatrical tradition in Los Angeles and New York.

On the New York side, the actors who have emerged from working with him include Kevin Kline, Fatti Lupone and William Hurt. His West Coast company, the Professional Theatre Group at the University of California in Los Angeles became part of L.A.'s Mark Taper Forum – the West Coast's most consistently important resident theatre company for many years.

David Stiers does not share Houseman's exotic history. He was born in Peoria, Illinois, the American equivalent of Basingstoke in the middle of the Mid-West. Best known to English audiences for his role as Major Charles Emerson Winchester III in the long-running television series, *M.A.S.H.*, for which he was

twice-nominated for Emmy Awards, Stiers has also become a famous voice in his own right. In 1999 he will be heard in *Toy Story 2*, and the Internet has photographs of audiences queuing for his autograph on CDs of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. For Woody Allen, for whom he has become part of the *de facto* film company, he even played the younger Houseman when Houseman was Gene Rowlands's father in *Another Woman*.

But the exceptional qualities of David Stiers have many sides. As a conductor, he has conducted over 70 orchestras in more than 100 performances, and by choice is now more likely to be found on a podium rather than in front of a camera or on a stage. And far from being a part of the Los Angeles scene, where he is greatly admired, he lives in Oregon, near the Pacific coast.

Working for BBC Radio on *Victorville* did bring to light another of his passions. As an addicted fan of *The Goon Show*, he is a Goon con-

pletist. And a trade-off for his remarkable performance was my task of seeking out some long unavailable recordings. For that, radio has a new recording in the real time of an hour at the imagined moment when Welles arrived in Victorville to deliver his verdict on the screenplay of *Citizen Kane*, setting Welles, Mankiewicz and Houseman on their separate paths.

It would be hard to imagine what exile in Victorville was like for those weeks in 1940, except that Hollywood was always just down the road. Desolate stretches of desert highway in Forties' film noir, and the novels of Raymond Chandler are there to conjure up that remote past. Nowadays, US15 speeds the gamblers from Los Angeles through Victorville to Las Vegas. But as we were recording near the beach in Santa Monica, the Old West rose up in Victorville's neighbouring town of Apple Valley as mourners in their thousands turned up in their hats, holsters and spurs in homage to Roy

Comics sharpen up, audience dumbs down

FOR MANY, improvisation remains rooted in the image of John Sessions being terribly smart-alec on *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* In the late 1980s, riffing with, say, a bicycle pump and a pair of water-wings in the style of Japanese Noh Theatre.

But on their debut at the outdoor venue of Shakespeare's Globe in Southwark on Friday, the Comedy Store Players proved that improv doesn't have to be insufferably

THEATRE COMEDY STORE PLAYERS THE GLOBE LONDON

smug; it can be clever and funny. After an earlier downpour more suited to January than July it looked like we would require all-weather gear rather than laughing gear. However, the Comedy Store Players

– comprising Paul Merton, Jim Sweeney, Neil Mullarkey, Richard Vranich, Lee Simpson and Andy Smart – soon obliged us to concentrate on wit as opposed to weather. You don't play twice a week for 13 years without learning a bit about how to handle an audience.

Initially, it seemed we were destined for a smut-athon. The classical statues at the back of the stage must have blushed when the first

suggestion from the audience for a household object was "vibrator". Matters stayed in that vicinity when, soon after, a punter responded to Merton's request for a position to adopt with, "on the toilet, trousers down". "Congratulations, Shakespeare reborn," retorted Merton.

But the team soon steered the show into more cerebral territory; the skill of the Players is such that they don't need to resort to the loo

for gags (although it's always there in moments of absolute desperation). They also made good use of the surroundings at the Globe. To get into the Shakespearean atmosphere, Sweeney said that, "Fifty of the people here in the pit have agreed to die from The Plague".

The Players are at their strongest when they make wildly incongruous juxtapositions. Merton and Simpson, for instance, played out a killing pas-

sage of a Tarantino movie set in a custard factory. "Do you know what they call custard in Paris, France?" asked Merton in his best cod-Travolta accent. "Custard Royale." As befitted the venue, the repartee was never less than rapturously.

For all the sharpness of the company, though, you had to doubt the intelligence of some of the people at this ideal venue for audience participation. After Sweeney asked

them for a suggested place of work, someone piped up, "Jason Connery". Even more incredibly, when he demanded the title of a sequel to a Shakespeare play, another person shouted out, "McDonalds".

Perhaps, in an attempt to immerse themselves in the Shakespearean spirit beforehand, the punters had imbibed a little too much mead...

JAMES RAMPTON

City slickers

AMERICAN BALLET dancers are different. They project to their big audience with a starry assurance that looks almost blasé alongside the more self-contained style we are used to, but we don't often get a chance to make the comparison. American Ballet Theatre last visited in 1990 and NYCB haven't been over since 1984 so the New York Ballet Stars' visit, featuring dancers from both companies, was particularly welcome.

The programme featured two Balanchine pieces and the works of three dancers who acknowledge his influence. All the dancers had a high-gloss finish: the women deathlessly *soignée* with sleek hair and diamond earrings, the male soloists juicy enough to slice up and hand round with horseshoe.

Balanchine's 1928 masterpiece *Apollo* was led by Peter Boal, whose heroic physique and clean technique made him a good choice for the part, and he handled his three muses with great care and skill. One should be grateful for live music but Opus 20 (hidden away behind a scrim onstage) were rather rough with Stravinsky.

Thursday evening saw the world premier of Christopher Wheeldon's *New Webern*. Wheeldon, used to the stylistic parsimony of NYCB with its repertoire of *señorita*, pure dance, is prepared to rely on music and bodies for his effects. His choice of music is not always inspired but at 24, he already produces as-

DANCE NEW YORK BALLET STARS QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL LONDON

ured and promising work. Ulysses Dove's *Red Angels* is equally frugal, relying simply on red unitards, black backcloths and dramatic lighting, plus the excellent live playing of Richard Einhorn's *Maxwell's Demon* by Mary Rowell on electric violin.

The dislocated, hyper-athletic choreography (which smelled faintly of William Forsythe) was not as good as they made it look and the effect was pretty corny and slightly vulgar. However, most audiences would be perfectly happy to watch Albert Evans and Peter Boal painting the kitchen ceiling.

Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky pas de deux* was last seen in London with Darcey Bussell and Igor Zensky – a cracking performance that had Covent Garden vibrating with ecstatic applause.

Kelly Cass and Benjamin Millipied were not in this class, but Millipied produced some particularly neat high cabrioles. The small stage cramped their style slightly and this is not a piece to dance to taped music. Anything with these virtuoso tricks really needs an understanding conductor, not just a finger on the "play" button.

The finale was Christopher d'Amboise's enjoyable *Circle of Fifths*,



The bold, brash style of the New York Ballet Stars Laurie Lewis

danced to Philip Glass's 1987 *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra*. The witty and strange piece featured Peter forever carving the air around Wendy Whelan with his sculpting hands as if trying to cut her free from the space she occupies. The signature move was a bizarre, flex-footed jump that made the 11 dancers look as if they were playing with invisible pogo sticks.

It's always nice to eat someone else's cooking for a change, but a glimpse of New York is a thrill as well as a novelty. Antonia Franceschi's well-chosen dancers and clever programme was a good example of how to mount an exciting small-scale tour on a modest budget: other directors could profit by her example.

LOUISE LEVENE

Redemption day

PROMS

CBSO, BBC NATIONAL CHORUS OF WALES, BBC NATIONAL ORCHESTRA OF WALES, MAHLER/MESSIAEN, ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Messiaen's great scheme of things. The great resonances of his gongs and brasses bleed, and die, into silence. The aforementioned roar of the tam-tam – a simple, but mighty, crescendo (and a throwback to Mahler's finale) – is only effective because of what happens to the sound after the player has ceased contact with the instrument. The ear is led to an altogether higher plain. The sound vanishes, but the music goes on, and on. Wigglesworth, if not all of his audience, appreciated that.

Mahler admittedly makes it easier for us. His silences are part of a more recognisable theatricality. It's easy to forget, and hard to believe, that the Second Symphony is a 19th-century piece (just), so radical are its sonic and spiritual advances. And yet conductors – including Mark Wigglesworth – are still inclined, perhaps unwittingly, to homogenize his music, to minimise his tactical shocks, to paper over some of the cracks, to make more comfortable, more accessible, that which is not. You take Mahler at his word or not at all. Isn't the momentous climax of the first movement more ter-

rifying if you don't make a *ritardando* (none is marked) into the battering chord sequence which marks out its moment of truth? Isn't it a fact that Mahler deliberately doesn't make a comfortable transition from one tempo extreme to the next? This moment should feel like a chasm suddenly opening up beneath your feet. Wigglesworth, like so many (they should all listen to Bernstein's recording), missed the point.

And yet the beauty of his performance (and that of his orchestra) cannot be denied. Sensitive phrasing, magical *pianissimo*, a pizzicato variant in the second movement so airy as to be almost intangible, a trio of close harmony trumpets rosily bucolic in the third (again too rosily bucolic, you might argue – this is rustic music, coarse and slightly vulgar). Mezzo soprano Jard van Nes was deeply disappointing in the *Urlicht*, the still, small voice of faith failing to materialise from her poorly sustained, uneven production (far too many breaths), but "Judgement Day", if not exactly apocalyptic (the march of the undead needs more trenchancy), was impressively staged with horns and trumpets sounding across the upper galleries and an offstage band that really did get closer. And besides, from the moment the chorus enters, on a breath and a prayer, right through to the overwhelming peroration, nothing much matters but that you are there, and grateful.

EDWARD SECKERSON

July 21st 1950

NETWORK

How I managed to lose millions on the Net

Michael Wolff (below) knows what it is like to build, and lose, an electronic empire. Melanie McGrath talks to the author of the best-seller 'Burn Rate'



Two years ago, Michael Wolff's online content company, Wolff New Media, was preparing to float on the New York stock-market at a valuation of \$150m. Wolff's personal stake in this motherlode was to be \$15m. From starting out as a minor player in the Internet game, publishing his first guide to the Net only two years previously, Wolff was about to become, in the parlance of New York City financiers, a Big Swinging Dick. It seemed like a brilliant hallucination. It was.

Back in 1991, Wolff had been working as a magazine journalist in New York when a friend asked him - as a favour - to talk to the "burdened, burnoutless" proprietor of an Amsterdam-based computer magazine, *Language Technology*, who was looking for a US distributor. At the time, Wolff was impressed by the man's zeal but could not see much of a market for his magazine.

The man was Louis Rossetto. In January 1993, he published the first issue of his reformatting magazine, now called *Wired*. Only a year after that, Condé Nast bought 15 per cent of *Wired* for \$3m.

By then, Michael Wolff had decided that he wanted in. "It was like Hollywood in the teens. A new American industry was being born," says Wolff in his blistering account of the scramble for bandwidth, *Burn Rate - How I Survived the Gold Rush Years on the Internet*.

In January 1994, working on the presumption that the Net would turn out to be an entertainment and information medium much like TV, Wolff New Media published *NetGuide*, a listings magazine loosely modelled on America's biggest-selling TV guide. The response was instant and overwhelming. CD-ROMs and other online products followed. Wolff New Media was on a roll.

There was only one problem. In common with many hi-tech start-ups, Wolff New Media's monthly "burn rate" (its cash expenditure over income) was running at \$500,000, meaning that how ever profitable it might be, within a month or two Wolff New Media would still have trouble meeting payroll.

Michael Wolff was not too concerned. There was always outside finance. In the frenzied Internet start-up atmosphere of the mid-Nineties, every Turn, Dick and Search Engine was attracting venture capital and going public, often at a value 50 times its projected revenues.

Virtual schoolboys were becoming multimillionaires overnight. There was Netscape, Excite and Yahoo. Venture capitalists were practically begging to invest in new technology start-ups. This was the equivalent of the Klondike. Picking up his gold pan, Wolff went to Wall Street. He was about to make a "devil's bargain".

The "devil", in this case, was the financier Bob Machinist. For a substantial consideration, Machinist and his company, Patricof, proposed to float Wolff New Media at "north of \$200m". The figures differed, but at this early stage, they were never less than \$150m. Eighteen months after the initial public offering, Machinist predicted, Wolff would exit the company richer by \$15m to \$30m. Wolff was mesmerised. "It was a way of looking at the world in which impediments to the most overachieving daydreams are just procedural hurdles, a series of capital requirements."

Through Machinist, Wolff met another venture capitalist, Jon Rubin. Rubin was young, clever, well-connected and, most important, rich. Wolff New Media needed short-term financing of \$5m to cover payroll and prepare for its flotation. Rubin, it seemed, was ready with the money so long as Wolff New Media was likely to float. During much of 1996, Rubin, Machinist and Wolff shuttled between coasts trying to get a merger or partnership deal that would pitch Wolff New Media at the kind of flotation value Machinist was predicting.

As Wolff himself admitted on his recent visit to Britain, *Burn Rate* is a story of extraordinary vanity and hubris. "The VC [venture capital] guys' world is a world of theories. It was attractive to me. I would sit in rooms with these guys and before I realised they were cutting me, I'd be thinking: 'yeah, they're very smart'."

For six months Wolff, Rubin and Machinist kept talking big figures and bigger promises, but they seemed to be no nearer to cutting a deal. "If you have the money, if you are a buyer, then you want to own something. The fact that the Internet is not ownable is an annoyance that few buyers are willing to accept," says Wolff. "They know there must be something they can buy."

In 1996 that something was content. Having carved out territory, Net businesses were anxious to exploit their newly won turf by creating or buying in content on to which they could peg advertisements. As Wolff points out: "The

assumption was that on the Web users would settle into specific habits and favour specific content selections... The Web would become a predictable world for advertisers."

Content was exactly what Wolff, as a former magazine publisher, knew how to deliver. With Rubin and Machinist, he flew to the West Coast to set up merger talks with the Robert Maxwell-owned search engine company, Magellan. But just at the point of agreement it became clear that Machinist was angling for control, and Magellan pulled the plug.

During one brief upturn, Wolff sold his original *NetGuide* idea to CMP Media, a \$500m-a-year company specialising in trade magazines. "I genuinely believe they thought that they were buying the Internet from us," Wolff says in *Burn Rate*. "Without the experience of the medium, it was almost impossible to fathom that the known world of cyberspace at that moment

would be wholly remade the next moment."

A year or so and a reported \$15m later CMP realised it was trying to hatch a rotten egg. The Net was moving too fast for guidebooks. "It was almost a commonplace that all cyber-transactions were a case of someone taking advantage of someone else," says Wolff with a sly smile. "I can't say I am particularly proud of much that I did, except ultimately to leave."

Sometime in late 1996, Wolff began to realise that the game was up. He was no nearer to getting the money he needed. More worrying still was that after all the West Coast dinners and fancy VC set-ups and red-eye flights back East, he still had only one source of even remotely reliable finance at his disposal - Jon Rubin.

"In my heart, I knew it was boys' games," says Wolff. His wife, Allison, who was also Wolff New Media's attorney,

kept advising caution, but Wolff was too caught up to listen. "The fact that I could step into the role of someone who could believe he would be worth \$100m is absurd, but that's what I did," he says. "I probably did take it too seriously. Success in this business means you have to become a financier because the software business is run by financiers and the goals of financiers [are] short-term, unstable, risk-oriented."

"It necessitates that your interest is nothing more than the appreciation of capital. The key issue for financiers in all these businesses is first and foremost, 'What is the exit strategy?' And often their exit strategy turns out to be leaving others to hold the bag."

Two things began to happen at Wolff New Media. First it became increasingly clear that content was no longer king. Wolff became convinced that the advertising model of content provision would not survive. "The price of content got lower and lower until content became as near to being free as you can get," he says.

The second thing to happen at Wolff New Media was that Jon Rubin started demanding more control. "The VC guys say they're here to back the entrepreneur, but they're not," Wolff says. "Like so many things in business, they mean the opposite of what they say. It's not that they're lying, but you're supposed to know they mean the opposite of what they say."

"So I found myself in a position where I wasn't in control any more. There began the process of understanding I had made a serious devil's bargain and I was going to be seriously messed about."

In exchange for meeting Wolff New Media's payroll bill, Rubin presented Michael Wolff with an agreement giving Rubin effective control of the company with Wolff as its titular head. In response, Wolff did what any desperado might have done. He banked Rubin's cheque, switched off his mobile and pretended his father-in-law was in hospital undergoing major heart surgery. In the intervening few days, Wolff's wife took the teeth out of Rubin's agreement and sent it back to Rubin to sign. Predictably, Rubin erupted, but there was nothing he could do. Wolff New Media had met its payroll, but Michael Wolff knew that it was only a matter of time before the whole edifice started to crumble.

"The personality type who will triumph is the entrepreneur who is really a manager. [Louis Rossetto and I] were like deer in the headlights when we realised that we had given up control in our own show. Having made this devil's bargain we started to fight it," observes Wolff dryly. It was to be a fight he would not win.

A few weeks later, after further tangles with yet other venture capitalists, Michael Wolff caved in. In an act of breathtaking chutzpah, he wrote himself a pay cheque to cover the salary he'd forgone in the previous six months to help ease Wolff New Media's cash-flow crisis. He faxed his resignation to Rubin's attorney, cleared his desk and waited for the security guards to escort him out of the building. He'd lost "somewhere between \$5m and \$7m".

Michael Wolff returned to his old profession, writing. His caustic account of his adventures during the scramble for bandwidth has just been published in the UK. "It's a morality tale, though it started out as a process of getting even," notes Wolff. "What was not clear as I began was that it's also a very funny story." And believe me, it is a very funny story. Wolff's portrayals of the sly, Machiavellian Machinist and the spoilt, bullying Rubin and his own desperate moves are alone worth *Burn Rate*'s cover price. Which may not be much so late for Wolff the entrepreneur, but is surely sweet revenge for Wolff the writer. "I heard from a mutual friend that since the book came out, Bob Machinist had heard from a lot of people he had lost touch with and he was figuring that could only be good for business. And you know what? I think it probably will be," chuckles Wolff.

Not surprisingly, Wolff has no immediate plans to set up his business on the Net again. "You have a business in which nobody knows what they're doing, what's going to happen tomorrow. It's all about some future state. That's why the Wild West metaphor is good, because anybody can be a big man. It's still very much, 'So who's riding into town today?'"

Wolff is no longer convinced that there is such a thing as a Net industry.

"No one is seeing this as a utility, but that's really what it is. It's not a medium to send a coherent message."

"The money is to be made in traditional businesses which happen to use the Net for distribution. Soon, we'll no longer think of the Internet as anything but a distribution medium, an incredible telephone."

'Burn Rate' by Michael Wolff (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.99)

Beware of barriers to free speech

To Senator Diane Feinstein
senator@feinstein.senate.gov



CHRIS GULKAR

Will I run the risk of a prison sentence for sending birds-and-the-bees messages to my child by e-mail?

DEAR SENATOR Feinstein, This is the first e-mail, indeed the first communication, I've ever sent to my senator. I'm writing because events in the US Senate and elsewhere are, frankly, cause for deep concern. I'm one of your Silicon Valley constituents whose life and livelihood are greatly affected by technology and particularly by the Internet.

For better or for worse, the large numbers of early Net adopters in the US make events in America highly visible, and influential in this truly international medium. It's not that you and your colleagues in Congress are doing everything wrong; initiatives to win our schools and find funding for public Internet terminals in libraries are very good work, in my opinion. We should reap huge rewards in the form of a better informed and more globally aware citizenry. Children who've e-mailed their counterparts around the world should not easily fall prey to racists and other hate mongers who thrive in the fear and misunderstanding wrought from ignorance. Good riddance to a planet held hostage by fear.

But, an election year looms, and your colleagues in the Senate seem eager to curry favour among the electorate, regardless of the damage their ill-considered legislation can do. Of particular concern is Senator Dan Coats' bill, S.1482, also known as CDA II, and S.1619 sponsored by Senator John McCain.

Both senators, or at least both of their press secretaries, claim their legislation protects children, Mom and apple pie, all worthy goals. However, both bills suffer the same extreme short-sightedness as previous efforts, such as the infamous Communications Decency Act that was struck down by the Supreme Court last year. Question: do your colleagues think carefully before they tinker with a 200-year-old tradition of free speech that has so far served America exceedingly well?

People were as good, and as bad, 200 years ago as they are today, and the

framers of the Constitution struck a remarkable balance between the rights and duties of citizenship. That this nation and this document have endured so long should be proof enough that they got it right. We don't need the misguided efforts of Senators Coats and McCain to "improve" it.

S.1482 purportedly seeks to force pornographers and other less-than-sterling citizens to put barriers in the way to children who could access their Web sites, a goal that I think no one has a problem with. The problem is the loose wording of the bill. What exactly constitutes "harmful to minors"?

Under the events surrounding the passage of the original CDA, some of your House colleagues read into the Congressional Record the opinion that any discussion of abortion was pornographic, and thus, presumably, "harmful to minors". That would have placed us in an Orwellian world where you'd have to watch carefully the opinion you uttered, depending on which medium was intended to carry it.

If a rabbi or a priest were to counsel a young couple on having a family, most Americans wouldn't have a problem with that person offering frank and explicit advice. Under the CDA, the same advice offered by fax or telephone would have been legal, but could have resulted in a jail term if sent by e-mail.

CDA II offers similar bizarre scenarios. While on an Indian Guides camping trip many years ago, my then five-year-old helpfully offered to explain sex to

me. He hadn't quite got all the details right, and the story has become an amusing bit of family lore. Sitting around the campfire with my neighbour and his son, I gently offered a little fatherly wisdom, in the hopes of putting a curious child on the right track.

Now say that, in Senator Coats's new world, my five-year-old e-mails me the tale from camp. Were I to offer the same advice, some loony somewhere could decide that I was offering content "harmful to minors" and turn both me and my Internet service provider in to federal authorities for failing to put up a barrier.

Judging by some of the things federal prosecutors have chosen to pursue in recent years (notably the prosecution of Kevin Mitnick), I am not at all sure that an act of nurturing parenting wouldn't land me in prison. What if I tell my child that I will call him, knowing that I run the risk of prison for sending birds-and-the-bees messages by e-mail? And what if, as is already happening, my phone call were routed over the Internet? Would I and the Internet service provider once again be liable to prosecution? And, under Senator McCain's bill, would the Indian Guides camp be shut down for failing to block the e-mail?

In short, this legislation seems to be aimed at creating a world where pornographers can thrive simply by demanding a credit card for access to their wares, but parents, priests and rabbis could end up doing time merely for doing their jobs. I suppose parents and clergy could play it safe, and demand a credit card before we offered parenting to our kids or pastoral care to our flocks, but I, for one, don't see that as an improvement over current practice.

Dave Farber, a professor of computer science at the University of Pennsylvania, a board member of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, says it best: "There are nicer ways to protect our children than doing things that take away their rights when they grow up."

Sincerely,
Your constituent
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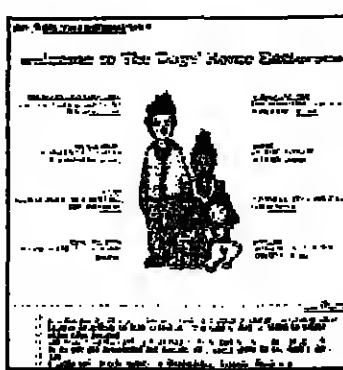
Touring the Net for cityscapes, cyberpets and catalogues of rock

Ancient Scotland Tour
<http://www.stonemages.com/stonetour/>
Scottish prehistory, Italian-style, is the intriguing mix on offer here from the journalists Paolo Arosio and Diego Meozzi, who have just completed a 12,000km grand tour of ancient ceremonial sites. Sponsored by the Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network, with an educational CD-ROM in mind, the duo spent two months amassing photos and Quicktime panoramas of hundreds of stone circles, barrows, cairns and burial chambers, from the mysterious telephone-dial carvings of Argyll to the evocatively named Hetty Pegler's Tump. After a while, one standing stone looks very much like another, though one of the images managed to make it on to the cover of the latest Van Morrison CD. It's an exhaustive catalogue, and the team went home last week with a valiant flourish: "Thanks and goodbye forever, brave wellies that trampled on tons of sheep droppings!"



Strolling
<http://www.strolling.com>
This rather less demanding expedition still requires a pre-stroll download of Surround Video Active X or its equivalent. After that, large areas of Central London (and soon New York and Paris) are available for casual sauntering by means of interactive maps leading to "immersive" panoramas. The images are quick to download and navigate - though there's no zoom facility, and, of

course, you have to beam back up to get between, say, Bloomsbury and Tottenham Court Road viewpoints. The Dublin-based company calls the site a resource for both intending and nostalgic travellers, and promises high-resolution webcams and streaming audio when bandwidth allows. The three-stage loading of the panoramas creates some interesting abstract cityscapes and, as ever, an unsteady hand on the mouse turns a genteel stroll into a drunken lurch.

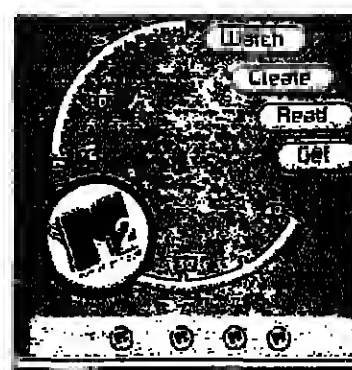


The Dogs Home, Battersea
<http://www.dogshome.org/home.html>
This week's dog story could also be a cat story: the redesigned site for the famous animal shelter offers portraits and profiles of long-term tenants of both species, desperate for more permanent accommodation. Bobby and Bruce, Greta and Sylvester give frank self-appraisals - "highly trained animal psychologists" have put them in touch with

their feelings, assessing their natures according to nine criteria. "I'm told I need to learn to respect other dogs' feelings and I've forgotten all my training, so I'll need a lot of reminding. Choose me if you are determined and patient so I could prove to you what a good dog I could be," pleads Louise, a Staffordshire terrier. There's an unbelievable Shockwave game called "Poopa-Scopa", and, for a donation of only £15, a chance for your pet to have its

own website and accompanying URL for its collar.

M2
<http://www.m2europe.com>
The Web version of the new MTV channel launches today, with leading popular musicians talking frankly about their plans for the millennium. Asian Dub Foundation plans to apply gelligate to the Dome, while the Fun Loving Criminals will evade the apocalypse with the help of some choice "herb", and Arab Strap seem to be settling for a quiet night in. As if these revelations weren't enough, there's a continuous 24-hour video stream of mainly live band footage, with plans for more adventurous material once modern speeds catch up with the frantic pace of the more "creative" promos. Viewers can select their own personalised playlist from a list of 1,500 video clips, for subsequent transmission. Later they will be able to add their own webcam input to the mix. The lack of presenters and



commercial is intended to create a cutting-edge, trans-European feel, and the site will complement the satellite version of M2, available in a few months' time.

Multipath Movies
<http://www.bde3d.com/>
The "interactive feature film" has been the aim of various short-lived experiments over the years, but the producers of this US venture are emphatic that this is not another game but rather an authentic movie experience employing video game techniques. Casts already lined up include Xena - Warrior Princess, Popeye and Ace Ventura - but in computer-animated form. Distributed from a special CD on a pay-per-view basis, the stories unravel in a seamless flow, as in a film. However, they can be customised in response to prompts from the viewer, which could be decisions about a character's mood as well as choices of action. Half an hour of viewing time involves producing over three hours of possible narrative outcomes. There is further explanation - but not, alas, an actual demo - at this site from the system's creators, Brilliant Digital Entertainment. The reality of it all sounds pretty basic: "Click on the icon to control Cyber-swine's actions."

Send Bill Pannifer your interesting, quirky or even (at a pinch) cool site recommendations to: webnotes@dircon.co.uk

MY TECHNOLOGY

Taking the lead once again

Guitarist Jimmy Page explains how he used the internet to break new ground in recording

WHAT WE did was in fact a media first. I was called on a Thursday with the request to do a song with Puff Daddy. At the time, I was rehearsing for the tour we are doing now and they told me that Puff Daddy would like to do a version of "Kashmir" for the *Godzilla* soundtrack. I spoke to him later that day. He really wanted to work with me, but it was unfortunate timing because all the equipment was going off the next day to Eastern Europe. Puff Daddy said he thought that we could work something out.



We decided to do it using the Internet. This meant going on tape in London simultaneously, using a satellite link-up between the two of us. The only real problem was that there was a slight [time] delay on the link. But it didn't really matter as we had communication between us via mobile phones. People were rushing around like maniacs on their mobiles.

Puff put two orchestras on it simultaneously and created this massive sound. People had used Zeppelin riffs before but had just ripped us off. Puff was really respectful and, although he was fully aware of the original, he didn't want just to take a sample from it.

It was a bit odd. Even though there was a satellite link-up, we needed to be really focused and disciplined. I knew that everybody had their eyes on

me; there was no room for mistakes. In fact, in the end, it was the studio that made the mistake, as it couldn't accommodate enough phone lines and the kick-off was about half an hour late. All I had to do was go down there with my amplifier and guitar.

I don't know whether I would do it again. It would have to be something pretty amazing, to be honest, for my sort of playing. It is much easier to be with the musicians at the same time. That was a mighty project: the whole thing had epic proportions and a tight time scale. We got the idea on Thursday and had achieved it by Saturday.

The whole thing coming together with Puff Daddy was really interesting and a great experience. The project was good in every way.

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

HOW THE REEL WAS DONE

CTS Studios in Wembley, north London, was the scene for a double-ended recording session linked via ISDN between CTS in the UK and Capitol Studios in Los Angeles. Jimmy Page's guitar parts were recorded in London using its AMS-Neve Capricorn digital console, with Jimmy playing live in the studio to the backing tracks which had been sent over to CTS via ISDN earlier in the day. The two production teams communicated via a five-hour satellite video link and film crews recorded the proceedings at both sites.

CTS engineer Toby Wood recalls: "The session began with the transatlantic transfer of the backing tracks - these came across as five stereo pairs, with time-code, using our APT ISDN system. We constructed a slave reel from these

tracks in preparation for recording Jimmy Page's guitar parts."

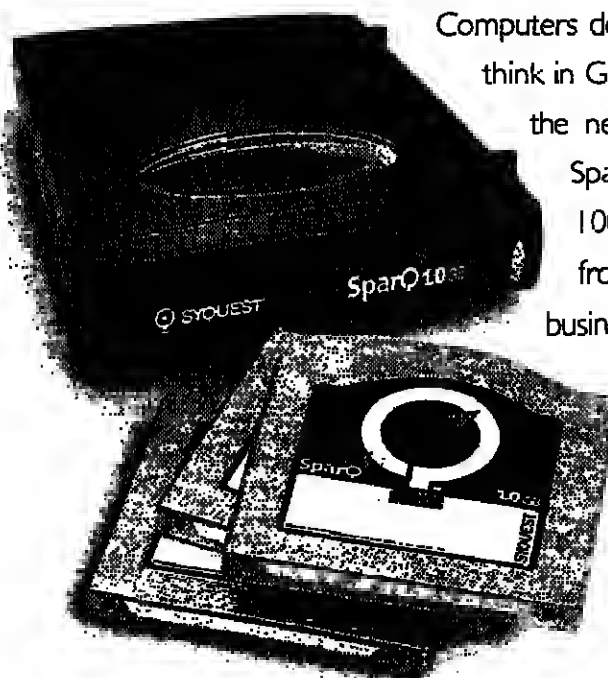
Wood explained that the system is most useful when a film's director wants an extra musical part some time after the main session, and the time and expense involved in getting everyone back together can be saved. For this project, the most demanding aspect of the logistics was ensuring that the right people got the relevant music or communications feed.

"At the same time as recording Jimmy's guitar overdubs, we had to make sure that the film crews got a clear feed of music and that Jimmy could hear talkback from our control room and from Puff Daddy in L.A. Also, L.A. had to have a permanent communications link with ourselves."

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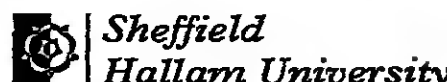
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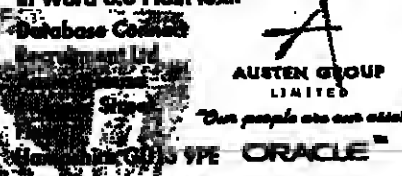
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separate software packages for certain applications with seamless integration required. You will be of graduate calibre with extensive systems development experience and a thorough understanding of manufacturing systems. Excellent communication skills with a willing and positive attitude are essential. Knowledge of Cognos products (quiz, powerplay, impromptu) would be advantageous.

In the first instance, please contact, in complete confidence, Steve Dargan on 0161 832 7728 (eves/w/ends 0976 656416). Alternatively please send your full CV, including the details of your current remuneration, to him at HW Technology, 26 Cross Street, Manchester M2 7AF. Fax: 0161 639 1375. E-mail: steve@hwgroup.com Internet: www.hwgroup.com



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NEW FILMS

DR DOLITTLE (PG)

Director: Betty Thomas
Starring: Eddie Murphy, Oliver Platt, Ossie Davis
The idea of Murphy functioning within the confines of a PG certificate may not be promising, but here he shows that his talents are more pliable than they might first have appeared.
Betty Thomas, a director with a deft comic touch, wastes no time dishing up what you have come to see: a suicidal tiger, a sozzled monkey and a pigeon which hopes one day to be mistaken for a bluejay. CW: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle, Coronet, Hammersmith, Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End.

LOST IN SPACE (PG)

Director: Tom Waller
Starring: William Hurt, Gary Oldman, Matt LeBlanc
In 2058, environmental breakdown has conspired to place the planet in the cosmic coconut sky, but scientist Dr John Robinson (William Hurt) has formulated a nifty escape plan, proposing that mankind upstumps to Alpha Prime. He and his family saddle up for the full 10-year trek there to pave the way. However, a stowaway terrorist (Gary Oldman) sabotages the expedition and sends the Robinsons off course.
Lost in Space is an expensive version of the eponymous cult 1960s television series, but the film-makers have remained faithful to the original tone. And the movie looks terrific. Every surface, from door panel to bull, is alluringly spongy; tabletops seem soft enough to sink your fingers into. Rubber, and rubber-effect, is very big: the plates of body armour look like they would protect you from sexually transmitted diseases but not much else; they are almost as alive as the people inside them, or, in the case of William Hurt, more so.
CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle, Coronet, Hammersmith, Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon

Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

MONK DAWSON (18)

Director: Tom Waller
Starring: John Michie, Ben Taylor, Paula Hamilton
You can just about discern the honourable intentions hiding within *Monk Dawson*. But far better to enjoy the film for the hot-potch of melodrama and sensationalism that it is, rather than the searing social parable it longs to be.
Eddie is a Catholic priest who finds temptation close at hand in his parish. He succumbs, loses his faith, becomes a journalist, and takes to the party circuit. But despite people flinging themselves at him, poor Eddie never lets a smile disturb his lips - this hedonism lark is not for him.
The conflict of faith and fallibility has been the basis for pertinent character studies before, from *I Confess* to *Lamb*, but *Monk Dawson*'s director, Tom Waller, and writer, James Maguire, let too many other ambitions clutter the film, so that everything feels glib.
CW: Odeon Haymarket, Virgin Fulham Road

PSYCHO (15)

Director: Alfred Hitchcock
Starring: Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh
I envy anyone who will get their first taste of *Psycho* this week, when it begins a revival in a new print. Imagine not being fluent in Hitchcock's language of tricks, betrayals and booby-traps. Imagine not knowing whether Janet Leigh will flee with the look, or escape that menacing traffic cop, or whether it will matter. Imagine seeing the Bates Motel for the very first time. Even better, imagine hearing that name - "Norman Bates" - and it not meaning anything at all: not yet.
Of course, the wonder of *Psycho* is that you do not really have to imagine - it is all there for you, each time you hear Bernard Herrmann's jabbing, stabbing strings and catch your breath in anticipation of what they promise.
CW: Chelsea Cinema

Ryan Gilbey

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey



HAVE YOU SEEN those ghastly television advertisements where members of the public are interviewed as they leave a screening of *The Castle* (left)? This brand of PR guff is usually only wheeled out for defective goods, but this dry Australian comedy is a hoot. The plot is pure Capra: a decent, ordinary family fight the fatcats and bigwigs seeking to expand the nearby airport right across their humble plot of land. But this is compassion with a grainy edge; there are gags here that might have made Frank Finch.

On release
Double Indemnity is a cruel, seminal film noir, made in 1944 by Billy Wilder who, with *Sunset Boulevard* and *Ace in the Hole* still to come in his career, had yet to show the world just how sour he could be. Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck cast morality to the wind in this tale of sex, betrayal and insurance fraud. Edinburgh Filmhouse, Lothian Road, Edinburgh (0131-226 2688) 3.15pm

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

PATRICK MARBER's clinical and comical dissection of modern relationships. Closer, continues to outclass almost everything else on Shaftesbury Avenue. A third cast - Imogen Stubbs, Kate Ashfield, Tom Mannon and Lloyd Owen - is being put through the bruising emotional obstacle course and there is no safe distance from which to watch.
Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (0171-494 5045) 7.30pm
Some have attacked Phyllida Lloyd's airy, abstract production of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* for being insubstantial, which says more about the high standards we set teachers than anything. Fiona Shaw's portrait of Miss Brodie strikes an authentic note. National Theatre, Lyttelton, London SE1 (0171-432 3000) 7.30pm



Classical Duncan Hadfield

TOPICS SUCH AS Heaven, Earth and Mankind are addressed by Chinese composer Tan Dun (below) in his *Symphony 1997*, which has its European premiere at the Proms from the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Jerzy Maksymiuk. Created for celebrations to mark the reunification of Hong Kong with China, *Symphony 1997* features an ensemble of 2,500-year-old Chinese bells, plus cello soloist Yo-Yo Ma. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (0171-589 8212) 7.30pm
Countertenor David James leads his three colleagues in the Hilliard Ensemble in a programme of sacred music by Guillaume Dufay, including his renowned Mass setting *Se la face ay pale*, and a selection of four-voice motets. The concert ends with the composer's *Ave Regina*, the piece Dufay requested on his death bed. Jesus College Chapel, Jesus Lane, Cambridge (01223 503333) 8pm



Comedy James Rampton

A COMEDIAN most fondly remembered for his nostalgic material about Raleigh Choppers, there is much more to gifted stand-up Simon Bligh. He can deliver observational material without slipping into trite "Have you ever noticed?" clichés. He is joined tonight on a bill for a benefit in aid of the East Dulwich Play Scheme by the rousing Boothby Graffeo (right) and reliable improviser Steve Frost. East Dulwich Cabaret, Lordship Lane, London SE22 (0181-299 4138) 9pm
That fine comedian Ed Byrne presents *A Night at the Opera*, billed as "a show about what goes through your head when locked in a room for three hours watching people sing in a show-off way". Fun, even for those who don't know their arias from their elbows. Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, London SW11 (0171-223 2223) 10pm



GENERAL RELEASE

BARNEY'S GREAT ADVENTURE (U)

Feature-length exploits for the dinosaur. Ideal for the more undemanding pre-school viewer, but an endurance test for anyone else. CW: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

THE CASTLE (15)

See *The Independent Recommends*, above
CW: Barbican Screen, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

DANCE OF THE WIND (U)

Indian television star Kitu Gidwani plays Pallavi, a singer of Hindustani classical music who dries up on stage following the death of her mother. The delicate music and stately camerawork help build a hypnotic atmosphere but they can't stop it from feeling like a short film dragged out beyond its natural length. CW: Renoir

THE DAYTRIPPERS (15)

Worried that her publisher husband (Stanley Tucci) may be having an affair, Eliza (Hope Davis) confides in her parents, only to find that the family wants to accompany her to confront him. First-time writer-director Greg Mottola charts the tensions of the family car journey with wit and compassion. CW: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Odeon Camden Town, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

THE GINGERBREAD MAN (15)

The routine level of so much in *The Gingerbread Man* disappoints on every front. Odd fragments remind you that here we have a great director marking time. When Robert Duvall's buddies spring him from an asylum in a weird nocturnal dance of silver and purple, we glimpse the fugitive ghost of another, less formulaic sort of film. CW: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Notting Hill, Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Warner Village West End

GODZILLA (PG)

The team which cooked up such blockbusters as *StarGate* and *Independence Day* is generally very adept at constructing enjoyable adventures with a B-movie taste for fun. Unfortunately in this tale of a giant lizard rampaging through the streets of New York, their light touch has deserted them. CW: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle, Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith, Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Warner Village West End

LA GRANDE ILLUSION (U)

Jean Renoir's 1937 classic has First World War prisoner of war Pierre Fresnay finding he has more in common with his courteous German captor, Erich von Stroheim, than with his proletarian comrades. This is the tenderest of war movies. CW: Screen on the Hill

GREASE (20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION) (PG)

Twentieth-anniversary reissue of the nostalgic musical. What fun there is to be had from a second viewing is mostly due to John Travolta's manic performance as the greased-up high-school heartbreaker. CW: Empire Leicester Square, Virgin Trocadero

HANA-BI (18)

Director-satirist Kitano picked up the Golden Lion at last year's Venice Film Festival with a brutal violent yet elegiac portrait of a brutal Japanese policeman pushed over the edge by his personal life. CW: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Gate Notting Hill, Metro, Richmond Filmhouse, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green

KURT & COURTNEY (15)

Documentary investigating the death of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain and the conspiracy theories which emerged in the wake of the event. CW: ABC Piccadilly, Rio Cinema, Screen on Baker Street

LIFE IS ALL YOU GET (DAS LEBEN IST EINE BAUSTELLE) (18)

An original black comedy about a young, possibly HIV-positive Berlin butcher stumbling through what passes for a love life. CW: ABC Swiss Centre, Curzon Minima

THE LITTLE MERMAID (U)

After years of churning out sub-standard animated features, this sprightly adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's story - rereleased for the summer holidays - began a string of hits for the newly rejuvenated Disney Studios. Pleasantly jazzy holiday fare. CW: Elephant & Castle, Coronet, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND (15)

A warm, subtle comedy starring John Hurt as a reclusive widower who becomes obsessed with a young film actor (Jason Priestley). CW: Metro, Curzon Minima, Virgin Haymarket

MAD CITY (15)

Dustin Hoffman plays a reporter who chases upon a hostage situation in a museum, where John Travolta has produced a gun in an effort to get his job back. CW: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

THE MAGIC SWORD: QUEST FOR CAAMELOT (U)

The first full-length product of Warner's new animation division, this Arthurian adventure looks and sounds even cheesier than the average Disney effort. But beneath the surface there's an edge of genuine weirdness that will keep most parents entertained. CW: Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith, Virgin, Odeon Kensington, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Paul Rudd confounds his flatmate Jennifer Aniston's dreams of wedding vows by being gay. CW: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Haymarket

PAULIE (U)

Once the muse of indie legend John Cassavetes, Gena Rowlands is now starring with a talking parrot - well, that's showbusiness. Voiced by Jay Mohr (best known over here as Tom Cruise's backstabbing rival agent in *Jerry Maguire*), Paulie is a wisecracking bird who takes a very look at human foibles in this likeable kids' movie. CW: Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS (12)

Action man Harrison Ford here tries to reinvent himself as a romantic lead by playing a boozey pilot who crash-lands with a New York magazine editor (Anne Heche) on a remote island. The director, Ivan Reitman, has adopted an old-fashioned approach which stretches to implausible contrivances. CW: Hammersmith, Virgin, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

THE THIEF (15)

In his investigation into the psyche of a six-year-old Russian boy in the aftermath of the Second World War, writer-director Pavel Chukhrai tries for the unforced poetry pioneered by Louis Malle. Unfortunately, he doesn't quite pull it off. *The Thief* is a familiar story, told with competence, but it is only the acting, performed with great passion, which makes this film special. CW: Renoir

THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

A shamelessly dumb but very winning comedy which makes the most of its Eighties pastiches. A hopelessly romantic wedding singer (*Saturday Night Live*'s Adam Sandler) who falls in love with a waitress (Drew Barrymore), only to discover that she is already engaged to someone else. CW: Odeon Mezzanine, Warner Village West End

CINEMA

WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET (0171-363 9772) @ Baker Street Dr Dollittle 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.45pm Godzilla 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm

ABC PANTON STREET (0171-430 0631) @ Piccadilly Circus As Good As It Gets 2pm, 5pm, 8pm The Big Lebowski 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Jackie Brown 1.30pm, 4.40pm, 7.45pm Live Flesh 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) @ Piccadilly Circus Kurt & Courtney 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Lolita 2.05pm, 5.05pm, 8pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0171-336 6279) @ Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road The Gingerbread Man 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Hana-Bi 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-433 4470) @ Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Kiss Dr Kill 3.50pm Life Is All You Get 6.10pm, 8.40pm Shall We Dance? 3.35pm, 8.30pm Sling Blade 1.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Taste Of Cherry 1.10pm, 6.10pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0171-636 6148) @ Tottenham Court Road Armageddon Thu 9.05pm Dr Dollittle 1pm, 3.05pm, 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 9.40pm Godzilla 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.55pm Lost In Space 12.45pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-382 7000) @ Moorfields/Barbican The Castle 3pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Daytrippers 6.15pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) @ Sloane Square Psycho 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 2242) @ Clapham Common The Daytrippers 6.45pm, 9pm Dr Dollittle 12.45pm, 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.15pm Godzilla 12.00pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 9.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) @ Green Park The Daytrippers 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

ELEPHANT & CASTLE (0171-703 4958) @ Elephant & Castle Dr Dollittle 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Godzilla 2.35pm, 5.15pm, 8.05pm The Little Mermaid 1pm Lost In Space 1.45pm, 4.40pm, 8.15pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0171-437 1234) @ Leicester Square The Castle 2.10pm, 4.15pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Godzilla 11.20pm, 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.40pm Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 12.40pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) @ Notting Hill Gate Hana-Bi 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0171-707 0718) @ Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith Dr Dollittle 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.20pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm Godzilla 12.00pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Lost In Space 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.00pm, 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, 10.40pm, 12.40pm, 2.45pm, 4.50pm, 6.50pm, 8.50pm

METRO (0171-486 0035) @ Baker Street Kurt & Courtney 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 6.50pm, 8.55pm Lost In Space 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

CURZON MINIMA

(0171-369 1720) @ Knightsbridge Life Is All You Get 3pm, 6.50pm Live And Death On Long Island 5.10pm, 8.50pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET

(0171-727 6705) @ Notting Hill Gate The Gingerbread Man 3pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

(0181-315 4229) @ Camden Town The Daytrippers 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Dr Dollittle 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm The Gingerbread Man 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 5.45pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.40pm The Little Mermaid 1.40pm, 4.45pm, 7.45pm Live Flesh 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm

ODEON HAYMARKET

(0181-315 4212) @ Piccadilly Circus Monk Dawson 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

ODEON KENSINGTON

(0181-315 4214) @ High Street Kensington City Of Angels 2.25pm, 7.15pm Dr Dollittle 12.35pm, 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.35pm The Gingerbread Man 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Godzilla 1.14pm, 2.50pm, 5pm, 9.10pm The Little Mermaid 1.25pm, 4.25pm, 7.25pm, 9.25pm The Object Of My Affection 4.15pm, 9.20pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.50pm, 6.55pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH

(0181-315 4216) @ Marble Arch Dr Dollittle 11.40am, 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm, 11.15pm (Thu) The Gingerbread Man 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Godzilla 11.30am, 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 9pm The Little Mermaid 11.55am, 2pm, 4.05pm, 7.05pm, 9.05pm, 9.50pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

ODEON MEZZANINE

(0181-315 4215) @ Leicester Square The Object Of My Affection 6.15pm, 8.40pm Scream 2 6.05pm, 8.35pm Six Days, Seven Nights 6.10pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer 6.10pm, 8.50pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE

(0181-315 4220) @ Swiss Cottage The Big Lebowski 2.20pm, 5pm, 8.35pm The Castle 4.50pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Dr Dollittle 12.25pm, 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.40pm, 8.45pm The Gingerbread Man 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm Godzilla 1.45pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Little Mermaid 1pm Lost In Space 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.30pm, 2.40pm

ODEON WEST END

(0181-315 4221) @ Leicester Square Lost In Space 12.00pm, 12.45pm, 2.50pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm, 6.35pm, 8.30pm, 9.20pm

PHOENIX CINEMA

(0181-444 6789) @ East Finchley The Daytrippers 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

PLAZA

(0171-737 1234) @ Piccadilly Circus Deep Impact 5.40pm, 8.20pm Dr Dollittle 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Godzilla 1.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Little Mermaid 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 9pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 11.30am, 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.15pm Paulie 11.30am, 1.40pm Scream 2 8.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Titanic 12.00pm, 4pm, 8pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm

RITZY CINEMA

(0171-737 2121/733 2229) 8R/ @ Brickton The Daytrippers 3.25pm, 5.25pm, 7.25pm, 9.25pm Dr Dollittle 2.55pm, 5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm Godzilla 3pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Hana-Bi 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The Little Mermaid 2.50pm Lost In Space 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm TwentyFour-Sevens 3.25pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

(0171-486 0035) @ Baker Street Kurt & Courtney 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 6.50pm, 8.55pm Lost In Space 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN

(0171-226 3520) @ Angel Hana-Bi 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) @ Belsize Park La Grande Illusion 3pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

UCHI WHITELEYS

(0171-792 3332) @ Bayswater/Queensway Barney's Great Adventure 12.00pm, 2.05pm, 4.05pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm, 10.05pm The Castle 4.50pm, 7.10pm City Of Angels 9.10pm Dr Dollittle 11.20am, 12.20pm, 1.20pm, 2.30pm, 3.35pm, 5.05pm, 5.45pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.40pm The Gingerbread Man 6.05pm, 8.45pm Godzilla 11.40am, 2.50pm, 5pm, 9pm The Little Mermaid 12.05pm Lost In Space 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm, 9.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 8.40pm, 10.40pm Paulie 11.55am, 2.20pm, 7.11.55am, 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.15pm Sliding Doors 7pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA

(01870-9070710) @ Sloane Square/South Kensington Barney's Great Adventure 12.00pm, 2pm The Gingerbread Man 7pm, 9.30pm Godzilla 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.15pm Lost In Space 12.05pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.15pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 12.15pm, 2.10pm, 4.30pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

(0870-9070711) @ South Kensington The Big Lebowski 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm The Castle 2.20pm, 4.20pm The Daytrippers 7pm, 9.30pm Dr Dollittle 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Godzilla 1pm, 4.50pm, 7.50pm, 9.50pm, 11.50pm, 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 5.50pm, 7.50pm, 9.50pm, 11.50pm, 1.50pm, 3.50pm, 5.50pm, 7.50pm, 9.50pm, 11.50pm, 1.50pm, 3.50pm,

○ SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER
Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. Londoe Palladium Ayrill Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) ⇨ Oxford Ctr. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

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● PIZZARINI 4911 Alford Street, WI (717)-494-5520) @ Oxford Cir. Mon-Sat 7:30pm, Su 10:30pm. 100-232.50. 135 mins.

● SHOW BOAT Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein's musical set on the Mississippi. Prince Edward Old Colonial Street, WI (717)-447-5400) @ Lele Sub Fldt Cl Rd. Mon-Sat 7:30pm, Su 10:30pm. 101-235. 180 mins.

● SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE - THE SONGS OF LIZBET AND STOLLER The rock'n'roll hit-trainers celebrated in a musical revue that includes Jailhouse Rock. *Principle of Wales County* Street, WI (717)-839-5972) @ Lele Sub Fldt Cl Rd. Mon-Thru 5pm, Fri 5:45pm & 8:30pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm. 215-432.50, Fri mats 510-525. 135 mins.

● STANLIGH EXPRESS An

new Lloyd Webber's hit-tach roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/£ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. 3[1]7 3pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

● **SWEET CHARITY** Bonnie Langford stars in this classic musical, featuring the numbers Hey Big Spender and the Rhythm Of Life. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-634 1317) BR/£ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. 4[1]7 3pm. £15-£30. 160 mins.

● **THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE**

Jane Asher stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. **Gleadow Studios**, 59 Avenue, WI (0171-494 5065) @ Picc Glic. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5/7] 3pm, £18.50-£27.50. 140 mins.

TRILUS and CRESSIDA Shakespeare's classic tale of love and chivalry set during the Siege of Troy. **Open Air Regent's Park, NW1** (0171-486 2431/cc 486 1933) @ Baker Street. Tonight 8pm, ends 3 Sep, £8-£20. 165 mins.

● THE UNEXPECTED MAN
Yasmin Reza's follow-up to *Art Is a Drama* about a novelist and a life-long admirer, Michael Gambon and Eileen Atkins star. *Duchess Catherine Street*, WIC2 (0171-494 5075/ee 0171-344 4444) @ Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm.

WHAT YOU GET AND WHAT YOU EXPECT Acerbic look at self-perception bant on success from Jean-Marie Bessel. Lyric. Hammersmith King Street, W6 (D181-741 2311) • Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7-10pm. [7] 2-3pm, excls 8-10pm. £10-12.

WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) ⇨ Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50.

120 mins.

● **THE WOMAN IN BLACK**
Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. *Fortune*
Russell Street WC2 (0171-888 2238/cc
344 4444) ● *Covered Garden* Holborn.
Mon-Sat 6pm; [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm. £8.50-
£23.50. 170 mins.

THEATRE

BEYOND THE WEST END

ARTS THEATRE *No Way To Treat A Lady* Musical thriller from Charles Cohan. Tue-Sat 8pm, mat Sat

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE
After Darwin Timberlake Wertenbaker's
 dramatisation of the clash between
 believers in natural selection and believers

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS The 'Footballer's Wife' Sex, love and betrayal amongst footballers and their spouses.

THEATRE
COUNTRYWIDE

BATH
THEATRE ROYAL Alarms And
 Excursions - More Plays Than One
 Michael Frayn's new comedy about a
 dinner party which is interrupted by
 mysterious messages. Tonight 7.30pm,
 continuing. £10-£24.50. St Johns Place

BOURNEMOUTH
MASSILLON THEATRE *Grease* Luke
 Bloss stars in the stage version of the hit
 film. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Wed & Sat
 3pm. £15-£19.50, cones available.
 Vestover Road (01202-456456)

PIER THEATRE See How They Fight
Philip King's farce about mistaken
identities and general confusion. Mon-Tue,
Thu-Sat 8pm, Wed & Sat 5.30pm &
40pm. £10.50-£12.50, comics available.
Enter Approach (01 202-456456);

CHURCHILL THEATRE Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the Bible story. From today, Mon-Thu 2.30pm-7.30pm, Fri-Sat 5pm & 8pm, ends 15 Aug. £8-£18, concs available. High Street (0181-460 6677)

CAMBRIDGE
MERTON COLLEGE GARDENS
The Taming Of The Shrew Shakespeare
performed in the open air. Mon-Sat
3pm, ends 29 Aug. £9 concs £6.
Arlington Road
(1 223-504444/357851)

ASTBOURNE
DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE
Murder Is Easy Agatha Christie's
Whodunnit. 3-5 Aug. 8.15pm, mat 5 Aug.
pm, ends 2 Sep. £5-£9.50. Compton
reet (01323-412000)

TOUGEMONT GARDENS Much
do About Nothing Shakespeare's
dian love story presented by the North-
t Theatre Company. Mon-Sat 7:30pm.
nds 11 Aug. E8-E12. Off Little Castle
reet (01392-493493)

100-443887-100

Last Call
WITH "I KNOW ENOUGH" on heavy rotation on Radio 1, The Audience have entered the mainstream and those who predicted it can feel rather smug. They're still not huge, however, so get down to one of their gigs now for future cool stains. Owner of the title *Mis Glamorous and Cool* 1998, Sophie Ellis Bextor has an angel's voice and a face for magazine covers, and you get mature and sophisticated musicianship from her colleagues. Awash with unabashed pop songs, The Audience will satisfy any desire for edible tunes. Worth seeing live to witness a real audience in adoration. Tickets are selling fast. *Audience of London*. Union, Model Street, London WC1 0177-664 2000. 18 Oct

EVENTS

BRACKNELL
SUMMER HANGING DECORATIONS (AGES 9-13) Learn how to make salt dough and create your own decorations. **South Hill Park Arts Centre South Hill Park (01344-404123)**
Today 10am-12pm, £7, book in advance

LONDON
CHILDREN'S SUMMER FUN
FAIR Small family fun fair with rides and stalls. Alexandra Park Wood Green N22 (0860-310970) ➔ Wood Green. Mon-Sun 12noon-7pm, ends 13 Sep, free.

NEWQUAY

HEADWORK CHERRY COKE
SURF FESTIVAL Surfing, live
music, entertainment, trade and stands
and displays. **Fistral Beach**
(01626-62883) Ends 4 Aug. 9am-7pm.
phone for details.

**SIDMOUTH INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF FOLK ARTS**
Europe's largest celebration of folk
music, dance and song with major
concerts, dance displays, carnival and
street entertainment. Various venues
around the town (013955-5134)
Ends 7 Aug, phone for details.

ST ALBANS
MY ST ALBANS Celebration of the
 lives of local people, who have contributed
 an object representing their lives.
 Museum of St Albans Hatfield Road
 (01727-819340) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm,
 Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 1 Nov, free.

ST ENODER
DAIRY LAND FARM WORLD
Working farm park with Heritage Centre,
giving the opportunity to interact with
animals. **Dairy Land Farm World**
(01872-510246) Mon-Sun 10.30am-
5pm, ends 1 Nov, £5.20, concs £4.75.

MUSIC
POP

LONDON
GREENSHIP, CAY, MU FEO
 Neo-progressive indie from the
 headliners. **Dubbe Castle Parkway NW1**
 (0171-378 6095) @ Camden Town.
 Tonight 8.30pm, £4, concs £3.50. . .
THE BIG OTHER, LALO Funk

THE BLUES ENGINEERS: Blues band with funk and latin influences. **Station Tavern** Bramley Road W10 0171-777 40531 @ Latimer Road

TUMBLEWEED Charly Coombes' Oxford popsters, as seen on TV. **Water Rats Theatre** Gray's Inn Road, WC1 (0181-885 6488) ➔ King's Cross. Tonight 8.30pm, £5.

EARL GREEN BAND Acclaimed

MUSIC
JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

BRIGHTON
THE FOUR BROTHERS
Zimbabwean jiti-jive heroes, with a world-wide following. *Sussex Arts Club*
Ship Street (01273-727371) Tonight 8pm, £5.

CANTERBURY
BLACK UMFOLOSI Mele
 traditional rhythms of Zimbabwean
 music. Peeny Theatre Northgate
 01227-470512) Tonight 8pm, phone
 for prices.

MARTIN DREW QUARTET: Drum-led modern bop with saxophonist **Mornington Lockett.** Colchester Arts Centre St Mary-at-the-Walls, Church Street (01206-577301) Tonight 8.30pm, £8, concs £7.

EALING JAZZ FESTIVAL Asian and Latin jazz perspectives with Durga Bising and Paz. Ealing Jazz Festival, Walpole Park Mattock Lane W5 (0181-579 5436). **WBR:** Ealing Broadway. Tonight 7.30pm. Tue-Sun 12.30pm, free.

JOSE NETO QUARTET Featuring Brazilian jazz-rock guitarist, Ronnie Scott's Fifth Street W1 (0171-439 7222)

→ Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm, £12; meals £4, NUS £8 (Mon-Thur); £15; meals £8 (Fri-Sat).

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Missouri Avenue, W
1-287 2715) @ Piccadilly Circus
3 before 11 pm.

→ Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm, £12; meals £4, NUS £8 (Mon-Thur); £15; meals £8 (Fri-Sat).

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MONDAY RADIO

RADIO 1
(97.8-99.8MHz FM)
6.30 Chris Moyles. 9.00 Mark Goodier. 11.30 Radio 1 Roadshow. 12.30 Newsbeat. 12.45 Jo White. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 Lameoq Live. 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 The Breakfast. 2.00 Charlie Jordan. 4.00 - 6.30 Cive Warren.

RADIO 2
(88-90.2MHz FM)
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Alex Lester. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 Humphrey Lyttelton. 8.00 Big Band Special. 8.30 The Chris Barber Jazz Diaries. 9.30 Mark Lamarr: Shake, Rattle and Roll. 10.30 Richard Ainsworth. 12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 - 4.00 Annie Othen.

RADIO 3
(90.2-92.4MHz FM)
6.00 On Air.
9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Proms Artist of the Week.
11.00 Sound Stories.
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Edward Elgar.
1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.
2.00 BBC Proms 98. (R)
4.00 Opera to Order.
4.45 Quartet.
5.00 In Tune.
7.30 BBC Proms 98. Live from the Royal Albert Hall, London. Vaughan Williams' transcendent Fifth Symphony is preceded by a touching memorial to Britten and followed by Tan Dun's ambitious new symphony, which brings together past, present and future with a 2,500-year-old ensemble of bells, a solo cello and children's voices. Yo-Yo Ma (cello). Chinese Imperial Bell Ensemble. New London Children's Choir. BBC Scottish SO. Part: Cantus in Memory of Benjamin Britten. Vaughan Williams: Symphony No 5. Conductor Jerzy Maksymiuk.
8.20 The Chinese-American Dream. Robert Lee explores the dilemmas faced by the Chinese community in New York. Many people settling in the city cling on to Chinese traditions, but they also want to embrace American culture.
8.40 Proms, part 2. Tan Dun: Symphony 1997 (Heaven, Earth, Mankind) (first European performance). Conductor Tan Dun.
10.40 Postscript. Five programmes

this week in which Nicholas Ward-Jackson explores the contemporary art world. Today, he meets Jon Thompson, perhaps the most important figure to have taught art in Britain over the last 30 years. At Goldsmith's College in the 80s he directly influenced the current generation of young British artists, but he now lives in self-imposed exile in Antwerp, where an exhibition of his work is forthcoming. He talks about the contemporary art scene and the tensions between academia and his own practice. (R)
10.35 Joao Rodrigues Esteves. Choral music by the little-known Portuguese composer (1700-1751), including the monumental Mass for Eight Voices. Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, director Stephen Darlington.
11.30 Jazz Notes.
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: George Frideric Handel. (R)
1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4
(92.4-94.6MHz FM)
6.00 Today.
9.00 Word for Word.
9.30 The Vale.
9.45 Cod: A Biography of the Fish That Changed the World.
10.00 NEWS: Women's Hour.
11.00 NEWS: Spirit of Corps.
11.30 Toms Midnight Garden. (R)
12.00 NEWS: You and Yours.
1.00 The World at One.
1.30 Words in Music.
2.00 NEWS: The Archers.
2.25 NEWS: Afternoon Play: The Big Hot Summer. See Pick of the Day.

RADIO CHOICE

"SOCIAL EXCLUSION" has been one of the buzz terms of the 1990s. In This Together (8.30pm R4) - the title comes from Tony Blair's post-election pledge that "We're all in this together" - examines what it means, and what is being done to tackle the many problems covered by this label. The first programme takes Jenny Cuffe (right) to the Pansywell council estate in Sunderland, a hotbed of vandalism, violence,

drug-dealing and casual arson that's now being cleaned up by energetic and determined housing officers. A season of plays written with half an eye on the school-holiday audience opens with The Big Hot Summer (2.15pm R4), a party Chandler pastiche by Bill Taylor about a 12-year-old Philip Marlowe wannabe in Cheshire. His first client, naturally, is someone's little sister.

ROBERT HANKS



small wreath to go on the coffin, so someone ran back into the house and brought out the cavity sabre that hung over the mantelpiece. John Harner Shawcross never forgot that moment." (1/10).
11.00 Radio 4 Appeal. Fergal Keane speaks on behalf of the Pansywell Institute, a charity which aims to stimulate debate on global environment and development issues.
11.42 Girls.
11.50 An Evening with Pato Pena.
12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Book. (R)
12.45 Shipping Forecast.
1.00 As World Service.
5.30 Shipping Forecast.
5.45 Inshore Forecast.
5.45 Prayer for the Day.
5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

9.00 NEWS: What Makes a Good Wood. Old trees, conifers, dead wood? Environmentalist Chris Baines forages in Chedokeley Wood, near Bromsgrove, with a naturalist, an entomologist, a forester and an expert on fungi to find out what makes the best wood.
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RADIO 4 LW
(98kHz)
9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service.
12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast.

RADIO 5 LIVE
(90.9kHz MW)
6.00 The Breakfast Programme.
9.00 Nicky Campbell.
12.00 The Midday News.
1.00 Ruscoe and Co.
4.00 Nationwide.
7.00 News Extra.
7.30 Cricket Legends. David Rayvern Allen continues his series in which he profiles some of the cricketing greats. St. Lord Learie Constantine. 8.00 Interesting. Very Interesting. Garry Richardson and Peter Brackley

take a lighthearted look at the world of sport, with celebrity guests and listeners' calls on 0500 908893.
10.00 Drawn Drain. 1: Players of Fortune. When the South Africa rugby team beat Wales by 95 points this summer, a sporting nation was merely numbed by the inevitable - the later blow had been dealt by England's crushing 60 points in February. In the first of two programmes, Stephen Evans examines the conditions that have led to the decline in Welsh rugby and how these will impact on the world game.
9.30 Voices of Sport. Ian Payne profiles the career of another great sports broadcaster. 5: John Snagge, the man who was the voice of the Boat Race for over 40 years.
10.00 Late Night Live. Nick Robinson sets tomorrow's agenda today.
1.00 Up All Night.
5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM
(100-101.9MHz FM)
6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerts. 3.00 Jamie Cullum. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 8.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Michael Mappin. 2.00 Concerts. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

WORLD SERVICE
(98kHz LW)
1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Westway. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Seven Days. 2.45 Border Run. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 On Screen. 4.00 World News. 4.05 World Business Report. 4.25 Sports Roundup. 4.30 - 7.00 The World Today.

TALK RADIO
6.30 Talk Radio Breakfast Show. Kirsty Young with Bill Overton. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 11.00 Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anna Raeburn. 3.00 Tommy Boyd. 5.00 Peter Dealey. 7.00 Nick Abbott. 9.00 James Walsh. 1.00 Ian Collins. 5.00 - 6.30 The Early Show with Bill Overton.

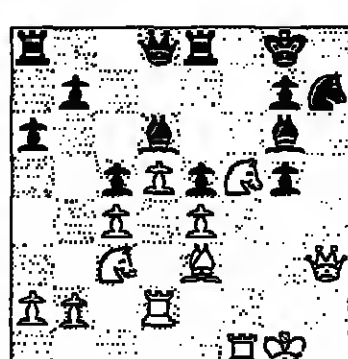
SATELLITE TV, RADIO/19

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS

WILLIAM HARTSTON

SUCCESS in a Swiss system tournament such as the British Championship demands ruthless efficiency in disposing of opposition that is less than top class. A score of 8½ points from the 11 rounds is usually enough for first place, so if you can draw with your five closest rivals and win the other six games, you are home and dry. The trouble with this strategy, however, is in avoiding draws against some of the outsiders.



In the opening rounds, Peter Wells has shown great efficiency in polishing off his opponents. The opening of the following game left White with an undoubted advantage, but his opponent's sound but cramped position looked difficult to breach. Wells set about the task with great energy, uncompromisingly improving his position in the centre with 13.f4 and 15.fxe5, then prising open lines on the K-side with 23.b4 and 26.g5. The combination with 30.Nb6+ (see diagram) was most unexpected. 30...Kh8 31.Nf7+ Bxf7 32.Rxf7 leaves the deadly threat of Rh2, while after 30...gxb6 31.Qxh6 the bishop on g6 had nowhere to run. 32.Rh2 was a nice flourish: after 32...Rg8 White wins with 33.Rf7!

White: Peter Wells
Black: Andrew Martin

1 d4 Nf6	19 g4 Bg6
2 Nf3 d6	20 Rad1 Rf8
3 c4 Nbd7	21 Nf2 Bb6
4 Nc3 e5	22 Nh1 Nh7
5 e4 Be7	23 h4 f6
6 Be2 0-0	24 Ng3 Red8
7 0-0 c6	25 Rd2 Qa5
8 Be3 a6	26 g5 hxe5
9 d5 c5	27 hxg5 fxe5
10 Ne1 Ne8	28 Qh3 Re8
11 Qd2 h6	29 Nf5 Qd8
12 g3 Nd6	30 Nh6+ gxb6
13 f4 Ng4	31 Qxb6 Kh8
14 Bxg4 Bxg4	32 Rh2 Qd7
15 fxe5 dxe5	33 Qxg6 Re7
16 Nd5 Qc7	34 Bxg5 Rg7
17 Qg2 Nf6	35 Bf6 resigns
18 h3 Bh5	

BRIDGE

ALAN HIRON

WHAT DO you say to your partner after he's conducted a well-meaning but unsuccessful defence? I have been on the receiving end of many comments over the years. Perhaps the kindest were "Good try, partner", and "Never mind, you gave it your best shot". As West on this deal, however, I contented myself with a sympathetic smile. East opened One Heart, South overcalled with One Spade and, after I had passed, North tried Two Diamonds. Partner fought on with Two hearts. South rebid his spades and although I contested with Three Hearts, North now hid Three Spades and South went on to game. I led ♠2 against Four Spades and, after taking his two tricks in the suit, partner had a problem.

Love all; dealer East

North	East
♠ Q J	♠ A 4
♥ 6 3	♥ A K J 10 9 5
♦ A K J 10 8 3	♦ 9 7 6
♣ J 7 4	♣ 8 2

West

♠ 10 3 2	♠ A 4
♥ Q 8 2	♥ A K J 10 9 5
♦ 5 4 2	♦ 9 7 6
♣ Q 10 9 5	♣ 8 2

South

♠ K 9 8 7 6 5	
♥ 7 4	
♦ Q	
♣ A K 6 3	

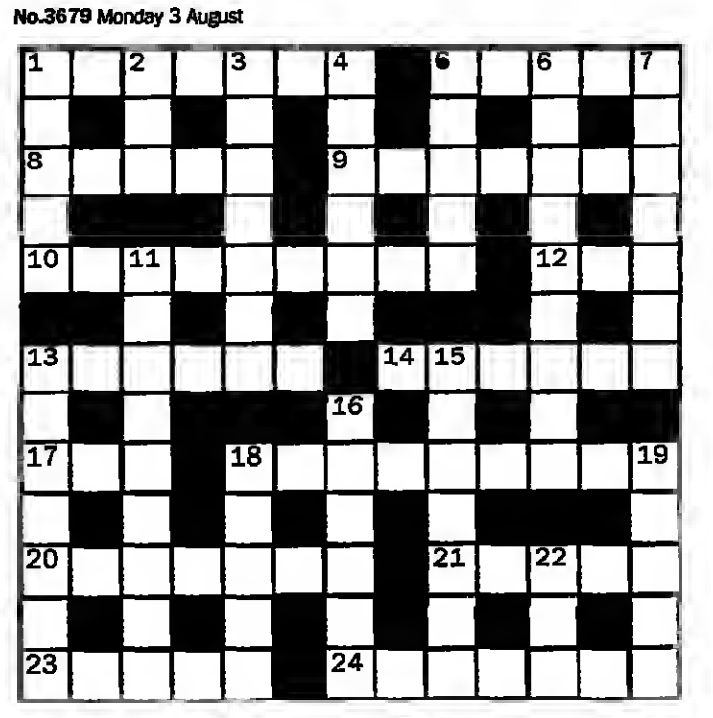
It did not work well, for South unspontaneously held the wrong hand. As he had a singleton diamond, two clubs were immediately discarded and all we came to now was the ace of trumps. There was a defence, albeit not an obvious one, which depended on my holding ♠10.x.x. Suppose East leads another heart at trick three. Declarer ruffs in hand and starts on trumps but East holds off on the first round. He wins the second and now leads a fourth round of hearts, promoting my ♠10 for the setting trick.

PUZZLE

WORD CHAINS
WORD - WORE - CORE - CARE
- CAME - GAME: a chain from WORD to GAME in five links, but can you find a seven-link chain leading from FISH to CHIP?
(Answer tomorrow)

Yesterday's answer:
1) LAY NOT ON A CARPET is an anagram of ANTONY and CLEOPATRA
2) ENTER DOME PLANS is a rearrangement of PETER MANDRELSON

CONCISE CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- US law officer (7)
 - Stags (5)
 - Lucid (5)
 - Italian composer (7)
 - Bellucose politician (9)
 - Goods vehicle (3)
 - Give up work (6)
 - Altitude (6)
 - Zodiac sign (3)
 - Rite (3)
 - Bird with showy tail (7)
 - Arise (3,2)
 - Make corrections to (5)
 - Posy (7)
- DOWN**
- Kind of parrot (5)
 - Mass of fish eggs (3)
 - Gives shelter to (7)
 - Salad plant (6)
 - Hang around (5)
 - Pertinent (9)
 - Branch of learning (7)
 - Theoretical explanation (9)
 - Recurrence of illness (7)
 - Substance used for riot control (4,3)
 - Deprive of strength (6)
 - Haughty (5)
 - Slightly drunk (5)
 - Pull (3)

Solution to last Saturday's Concise Crossword:
ACROSS: 1 Buyer, 4 Logical (Biological), 8 Chassis, 9 Miner, 10 Estuary, 13 Eden, 15 Severn, 17 Unhappy, 20 Declare, 24 Salute, 26 Irons, 27 Air-raid, 28 Krupnik, 29 March, DOWN: 1 Buckles, 2 Years, 3 Roster, 4 Lessee, 5 Gnam, 6 Cantata, 7 Lorry, 12 Seng, 14 Dear, 16 Victory, 18 Nostrum, 19 Yielded, 21 Regain, 22 Drink, 23 Asset, 25 Blast.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

SATELLITE CHOICE

A ROOMFUL of monkeys typing away for eternity, it is said, will eventually produce a line of Shakespeare; in Hollywood, this adage gets a predictably dumbed-down spin. Ed (4.30pm Sky Movies Screen 1) is the tale of a freaky monkey with no such literary ambitions, a professional-standard baseball player with an uncanny ability to hit home runs. Matt LeBlanc (currently disarming stuffy critics in *Lost in Space*) plays a struggling pitcher

who is helped by his computer-generated simian buddy. *Jungle Book* this isn't, but it's entertaining holiday fodder. *True Romance* (10pm Sky Movies Gold) is a rather more grown-up tale, directed by Tony Scott, scripted by Quentin Tarantino (right). Christian Slater plays a comic-store assistant who falls in love with a hooker (Rosanna Arquette). After killing her pimp, the pair flee. Cue exponential violence.



PETER CONCHIE

(58357), 5.00 Fire on the Rim (58681), 10.00 Super Creeps: Tarantulas and their Venomous Relations (58189), 11.00 Fightpath (54304), 12.00 First Fight (49543), 12.30 Wheel Nuts (27452), 5.00 Roller Coaster (22242), 2.00 Close.
SKY 1
2.00 Tanned Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (7222), 3.30 Street Sharks (5859), 9.00 Garfield and Friends (8743), 9.30 The Simpsons (5976), 10.00 Games World (24899), 10.15 Games World (22222), 10.30 Just Kidding (8357), 11.00 The New Adventures of Superman (7018), 12.00 Married with Children (7039), 12.30 M-A-V-I-S (44722), 12.45 The Special K Collection (58233), 1.00 Gerardo (58233), 1.15 The Special K Collection (58233), 2.00 Daily Jessy Raphael (58233), 2.15 The Special K Collection (58233), 3.00 Jerry Jones (58240), 3.15 The Special K Collection (58233), 3.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (58233), 4.00 Star Trek: Voyager (58233), 4.15 The Oprah Winfrey Show (58233), 4.30 Star Trek: Voyager (58233), 4.45 The Oprah Winfrey Show (58233), 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (58233), 5.15 The Oprah Winfrey Show (58233), 5.30 Star Trek: Voyager (58233), 5.45 The Oprah Winfrey Show (58233), 6.00 Star Trek: Voyager (58233), 6.15 The Oprah Winfrey Show (58233), 6.30 Star Trek: Voyager (58233), 6.45 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I have made so many sacrifices to get this far, that I don't want to go any farther.

Christopherson replied, in the second episode of *Your Money Ain't Your Life* (CJ) which candidly has account of his desperate struggle to keep a small engineering firm afloat. The piece to which he refers is "The Price to Which Business's Ethics Had Driven Him." He talks in personal language about the cruel years that the debt had been piling up that the debt had been piling

released scenes between Monroe and Mary Ann, he's landed over a platform. Valentino's car, then cut away to Mona, alone and unhappy, and referring for moeties in Monks's salinity. "My life is down to the seeds and the stems and I just can't cage anyone," wails Mann in a vaudeville note in Mrs. McHardy, the sex-change landlady whose San Francisco boarding house provides the binding location for Mann's ensemble drama. She then takes a greyhound for Reno, happily meeting Mother. Much on the way, an old lady with vermillion hair and a face that has not just been around the block but probably led the pavilion to Walter Pichler invites her to come and work the jujues in the desert wilderness, no invitation which would count as a fall from grace in most sagas but which here will almost certainly figure as a penumbral intervention. The smaltations may be foul-mouthed (Mother-Rhymes with her name), but they are well intentioned all the same — a standing rebuke to America's society, such as Mary Ann's mother and Beeshearn Day, who finally leaves the eastern of his concluding when he receives an anonymous note reading: "Why don't you tell them I'm

Channel 5

- [illegible]

ON SATURDAY IT WAS THEM.




ON SATURDAY IT WAS THEM.

Draw: Aug. 18/91. The winning numbers: 12, 14, 31, 48, 49. Bonus number: 0.

Roll Sales: £56,311,043. Prizes Paid: £28,511,310 net. £110 net. £1 ticket sales.

CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS	AVERAGE PER WINNER	TOTAL POT
Match 5 plus Bonus ball	1	£28,511,310	£28,511,310
Match 5	16	£1,781,957	£28,511,310
Match 4	312	£85,289	£26,620,304
Match 3	13,306	£1,971	£26,225,446
Match 2	459,004	£35	£16,065,140
Match 1	12,900,000	£1	£12,900,000

Total week's contribution to Good Causes: £37,000,000

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